

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

## China Overland Trade Report.

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### CONTENTS.

|                                                     | PAGE |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------|
| Far Eastern News .....                              | 353  |
| Leading Articles.—                                  |      |
| The Future in China .....                           | 357  |
| The Late Emperor of China .....                     | 357  |
| The Regency .....                                   | 358  |
| The Situation in China .....                        | 358  |
| The Chinese Sky-God .....                           | 359  |
| Building Collapses in Hongkong .....                | 359  |
| Death of Prince Ching .....                         | 360  |
| Random Reflections .....                            | 360  |
| Hongkong News .....                                 | 361  |
| Canton News .....                                   | 362  |
| Fatal Cycling Accident .....                        | 362  |
| Arrival of the Buffs .....                          | 362  |
| Dairy Farm Company, Limited .....                   | 362  |
| Emigration Agent Duped .....                        | 362  |
| Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce .....          | 363  |
| New Y. M. C. A. Branch at Wanchai .....             | 367  |
| Hongkong Corinthian Yacht Club .....                | 367  |
| Interesting to Traders .....                        | 368  |
| The Peak Murder .....                               | 368  |
| Papal Jubilee .....                                 | 368  |
| Lawlessness in Kwangtung .....                      | 368  |
| Important Case Under the Liquor Ordinance .....     | 369  |
| Supreme Court .....                                 | 369  |
| Railways in China .....                             | 371  |
| Death of the Emperor of China .....                 | 371  |
| Death of the Empress Dowager .....                  | 371  |
| The National Mourning .....                         | 372  |
| The Situation at Peking .....                       | 372  |
| Rumours of Impending Trouble .....                  | 372  |
| Death-Bed Edicts .....                              | 372  |
| The Shanghai Libel Case .....                       | 374  |
| Establishment of Customs Stations on Railways ..... | 375  |
| Manila's New Water Supply .....                     | 375  |
| Commercial .....                                    | 376  |
| Shipping .....                                      | 378  |

### BIRTH.

On November 8th, at Shanghai, Mrs. L. C. H. EDMONDSTON, of a daughter.

### DEATH.

On November 17th, at Hongkong, HORACE E. WADMAN, aged 48 years.

### Hongkong Weekly Press.

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### ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail of the 21st October arrived per *s.s. Goeben* on the 19th inst.

The French Mail of the 23rd October arrived per *s.s. Dumbea* on the 23rd inst.

### FAR EASTERN NEWS.

The death is announced in England of Mr. H. E. Bush, senior, of Newchwang.

The Russians have decided to withdraw their garrisons from North China leaving only a Legation Guard.

The South Manchuria Railway Company has engaged a German expert to assist in the general management of the line.

With a view of improving the China tea trade, the Board of Agriculture and Commerce is sending deputies to the tea-growing provinces of the Empire to furnish reports.

Cholera has broken out at Singapore, two or three fresh cases being discovered daily. The victims are mostly Chinese.

Mr. G. W. King, Police Magistrate at Shanghai, was married last week to Miss Helen Fanny Morphet, daughter of Mr. E. Morphet, barrister-at-law, of Hove, Sussex.

Chinese telegraph rates are to be reduced 20 per cent from the first day of next year with a view to popularising the telegraphs and extending the system throughout the Empire.

The following questions were tabulated for discussion by the Chinese Government after the Birthday festivities: (1) Reform in Tibet; (2) The reform of officials; (3) the raising of funds for the Navy.

German miners have discovered a gold mine at Hai Ning in Shantung, and have asked China to permit them to operate it in conjunction with Chinese capitalists. The Wai Wu-pu has firmly refused the application.

The Board of Finance at Peking has decided to withdraw the dollar currency from circulation. It is apparently not yet settled whether a limit of three or five years shall be set for this after the new tael currency is issued.

A Hankow paper states that the hull of the *s.s. Hanping* which sank at Shanghai after collision with *H.M.S. Flora*, was insured with the Union Insurance Co. of Canton for Tls. 100,000 and the cargo for \$40,000 with the Mannheimer Versicherungs-Gesellschaft.

Four high officials at Manila have recently undergone operations for appendicitis. They are Mr. Shuster, Commissioner of Customs; Mr. Gilbert N. Brink, Assistant Director of Education; Lieutenant Greenwell, A. D. C. to the Governor-General; and Attorney Hargis.

Four native Banks have suspended payment at Hankow. Their liabilities amount to Tls. 3,700,000. The compradore of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank is said to be the heaviest loser. It is reported that his loss is Tls. 500,000. Other native Banks are practically unaffected.

The President of the Ministry of Justice has notified the Provincial Authorities that henceforth in all cases in which the punishment has hitherto been "bambooing" a fine shall be imposed in lieu thereof and has ordered the authorities to remit the fines to the Board every quarter.

A Hankow journal compliments the fair sex in that city thus: The ladies of Hankow are certainly very industrious as there is scarcely a male kind in the port who does not proudly sport a festive waistcoat, which has been diligently worked by a pair of fair hands. Happy men of Hankow.

H.I.H. the Emperor of Japan reviewed the fleet at Kobe on the 18th inst. when practically the whole of the navy assembled. The review was to have taken place the previous day, but it was postponed owing to a gale. The postponement was a disappointment to the enormous concourse of people who had foregathered.

The historic old town of Cavite, a Manila contemporary says, is a very lively place these days, with no cholera on her health list, liberty for men of the Pacific fleet, two merry-go-rounds running day and night, and moving pictures at the theatre every evening. It has quite a metropolitan air, and the residents dread the time when the fleets leave, and the town settles again into stillness.

It is stated that the Board of Posts has vetoed the appointment of a foreigner as engineer-in-chief of the Swatow-Chao-Chow railway on the ground that such appointment was contrary to the express orders of the Board.

The subsidiary coinage of Siam is to be converted to the decimal system. The new money includes bronze, nickel and silver coins, and the two first mentioned varieties will have holes of varying dimensions in the centre. It is expected that the bronze coins will be put into circulation during this month. The new coins have been made in Belgium.

A northern journal is informed that no correspondent of a home paper will be permitted to visit the forthcoming Chinese army manoeuvres in the South. The Central Government excuses itself on the ground of expense. We expect that the decision means merely that no correspondent will be the guest of China. Local papers will be permitted to send representatives, as guests, to the South.

A correspondent informs the *Bangkok Times* that grave fears are being entertained for the safety of a lot of the rice planted. In many cases the rice plants are flowering under water, and then the high winds recently experienced, have blown large areas on the water. Fortunately the rains have ceased up-country and it is hoped that the water will begin to drain off the too heavily flooded fields.

An auction of race ponies was held at the Shanghai Horse Bazaar last week and prices ranged from Tls. 10 up to Tls. 500 for Kandahar Chief. In all seventy-two animals were disposed of. Kandahar Chief realised Tls. 500, Superb Tls. 350, Frosty Morn Tls. 260, Temeraire, Tls. 225, Gieslar, Tls. 205, Elta, Tls. 234, Mysore Chief Tls. 220, Portland, Tls. 155, Kingway Tls. 160, and Raceland Tls. 150.

It is stated that a proposal is under consideration to transfer the control of the Imperial Chinese Post Office from the Inspector-General of Customs to the Board of Posts and Communications, but no definite action is likely to be taken until Sir Robert Hart returns to Peking. In the meantime the Chinese Government is desirous of arranging that the Treaty Powers shall agree to accept Chinese postal orders, China on her part agreeing to accept those of the Treaty powers.

Macao is once more to have a newspaper. The first foreign newspapers published in the Far East were produced at Macao, but in the Portuguese Colony newspapers seem, like the gods, to die young. The list of papers which Macao has had during the past century would make a long one. Recently Macao has been for some time without a newspaper. This "long felt want" is now about to be supplied by Mr. C. J. da Silva, the advocate. The name of the paper is to be "A Verdade."

The Industrial Bank of Japan is reported to have effected a provisional contract with London and Paris underwriters for a loan of ¥20,000,000 the loan being guaranteed by the Japanese Government. The issuing price is £97, and it bears interest at 5 per cent. per annum, the principal to be redeemed within twenty-five years. Half of the loan will be issued in London and the other half in Paris. It is understood that the whole of the loan will be supplied to the Korean Government, which will utilize the money for the development of commerce and industry in the peninsula.



Though Bangkok is not one of the great shipping ports of the world, still with the dredging of the bar and other improvements, it could be turned into one of the most important and safest harbours in the Far East, says the "Siam Free Press." With the constantly increasing area under rice cultivation, the export trade of Siam is bound to increase enormously in the future, and better shipping facilities will then become an urgent necessity in order to keep pace with the growing trade of the port.

Foreigners and Chinese who were in North China during the Boxer rising in 1900 will not have forgotten the late General Mei Tung-yi, who protected foreigners at Tsangchou, Chihli, during that time and was afterwards rewarded with a gold watch specially sent from London, by the British Government. General Mei died in 1904. Now, says a Hankow exchange, by permission of the Chinese Government, the people at Tsangchou have erected a special memorial temple for him as a recognition of his services. General Mei was one of the very few high Chinese military officers, who did not believe in the Boxers.

Messrs. Hughes and Young, of 55, Chancery-lane, London, forwarded to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs on October 14 a letter to inquire, "whether any convention has been concluded between Japan and the United Kingdom similar to that concluded on the 19th May, 1908, between the United States and Japan, under which the protection of patents, designs, and trade marks under the Japanese Patent Designs and Trade Marks Law is extended to Korea." In reply, the Foreign Office states that "his Majesty's Government are at the present moment engaged in negotiating a convention with the Japanese Government for the mutual protection of trade marks in China and Korea."

Sir Robert Hart, the veteran Inspector-General of Chinese Customs, made his first public appearance in London since his return from the East at a dinner of the Paviers Company, in the City, last month. In the afternoon he was admitted as a freeman of the company. Speaking of the splendid hospitality of the Paviers, he mentioned a private banquet to which he was once entertained by some Chinese friends in Peking. It began at twelve o'clock in the day and lasted until five o'clock next morning, and during the seventeen hours there were 125 courses, of which he was able to say he tasted every one. Yet the following morning he took his coffee and bath as usual, and went through his day's work without sleeping.

According to official reports, the experimental use of Hung-shan coal by the German East Asian Naval Squadron has been thoroughly satisfactory. The use of this coal brought to surface by the Shantung Mining Company, remarks a Berlin correspondent, will represent a considerable saving of money. Thus, in June, 1907, Cardiff coal was sold at Shanghai for £2 to £2 10s. per ton; Japanese coal sold at from 15s. to £1 5s., and the Shantung coal at from 17s. to £1 2s. a ton. Last June the new seam of coal at Hung-shan was tested by being used as fuel in the electrical station at Tsing-tau, and the result was satisfactory, and it is believed that henceforth this coal will be supplied to the German warships in the Far East, as the Admiralty will not renew contracts for the supply of Cardiff coal.

Captain F. E. C. Ryan, of H.M.S. *Astraea*, has submitted a report to Government on his visit to the Keeling-Cocos Islands, in September last. In referring to Direction Island, which is occupied by the staff of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company, numbering 21 Europeans, 45 Chinese and five Malays, he says the staff all speak very highly of the beneficial effect of the climate. The Chinese are principally employed in building work, and will eventually return to Singapore. The Telegraph staff are very comfortably housed, and recent improvements include the addition of new tennis courts and a new cricket pitch. The difficulty of obtaining a good water supply is overcome by the erection of a distilling plant. By the recent installation also of a refrigerating and ice-making plant, the comfort and health of the Europeans has been greatly improved.

We learn from a Peking contemporary that the Wai Wu Pu has forwarded a despatch to the Viceroy of Chihli stating that the Board has consented, at the request of the German Minister, to allow him to take charge of the affairs of Turks and Armenians in China. These are subjects of non-treaty powers resident in China and they are therefore under Chinese control the same as ordinary Chinese subjects. He is also requested that it should be noted that no passports will be issued to people of these races and if they travel, and trouble ensues, they will be treated as Chinese subjects.

A Peking contemporary states that the members of the Council of State have recently been conferring with the President of the Board of Finance with regard to the proposed currency. The conference took place in the Lang Yen Yuen Garden, and a resolution was passed the other day to mint 30,000,000 of the new one-tael pieces. These coins will be distributed according to a certain carefully arranged scale throughout all the Provinces of China, and on receipt of their prescribed allotments the respective Provincial Treasuries are to remit silver bars, equal in value to the coins received, to the Central Government.

One crying evil at Saigon arises from the numerous low liquor shops run by Chinese, who retail the worst of spirits which too often take effect as rank poison. The very cheapness of the liquor is convincing proof of its unwholesomeness, but the low prices attract crowds to the spirit shops. Soldiers and sailors especially fall victims to these unscrupulous liquor dealers. The *Saigon Opinion* urges the local authorities no longer to keep quiet and allow these unprincipled Chinese to enrich themselves quickly by drugging the soldiers of the garrison.

We read in a Peking contemporary that H. E. Chang Chi-tung, Grand Councillor, has advised that a foreign loan of 15,000,000 taels should be raised for the construction of the proposed railway from Hankow to Szechuan. His Excellency has advised that this line should be proceeded with before the Hupeh section of the Canton-Hankow railway. The gentry of Hupeh are stated to be strongly opposed to the proposal. At Hankow, too, strong opposition has been shown to the proposal to raise a foreign loan. H. E. Chang Chi-tung has been informed by wire that the promoters of the enterprise do not intend to have officials interfere with the line in any way. We gather that since a foreign loan was proposed subscriptions amounting to 12,000,000 taels have been promised.

H. E. Chang Ming Chi, the Governor of Kwangsi Province, has forwarded a memorial to the Throne stating that he has arrested three notorious Chinese revolutionists, and that many important documents relating to the revolutionary movement were discovered in the luggage of one of them. According to these papers Dr. Sun Yat Sen is the leader of the movement and his followers number 10,000 men sworn to obey him in all things. Those of them scattered along the Yangtze River, are 4,000 in number, and there are 600 in Japan. During their trial the prisoners denied everything that was brought against them. They were convicted, however, and decapitated in Kweilin under instructions from the Governor, and the Grand Council is now requested to submit all this information to the Throne.

Many residents along the China coast and especially the sea-faring community engaged in the coasting trade will deeply regret to learn of the death of Dr. Henry Layng of Swatow of which port he had been the Medical Officer for the long period of twenty-two years. Dr. Layng came out first to Amoy but did not remain there long. Early this year he had an attack of paralysis. Mrs. Layng, who was at home at the time, returned to Swatow, but finding his condition serious took her husband back to England. At Marseilles on the way home he had another slight attack, from which he recovered but he had not been long a Cheltenham before he had another seizure, and this had a fatal termination on the 4th ultimo. Dr. Layng was held in the highest esteem by all who knew him and the deepest sympathy will be felt for the widow and her four children. Dr. Layng was about 48 years of age.

Mr. John Fowler, the American Consul at Chefoo, who is now at Home, seems to have created a little sensation in the States by denouncing Li Sum Ling as an imposter, and "nothing but a Hongkong Chinaman." Mr. Fowler's remarkable action, the *New York Herald* says, has been brought to the notice of the American State Department.

The state coach now being built for the Sultan of Johore at the Central Workshops, Kuala Lumpur, is described as a miniature palace on wheels. The coach is built of cheonghai and jelutong and contains a commodious state room with easy chairs and folding tables and a luxurious sleeping saloon with a fixed bed. A bathroom is also fitted to the coach.

The Japanese Government has decided to continue the grant of a subsidy for steamship services, the term for which expires at the end of the next fiscal year. The subsidy for the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's European line is placed at Y2,670,000 a year, that for the Seattle line at Y55,000 and that for the Toyo Kisen Kaisha's San Francisco line at Y1,000,000. It is proposed that these subsidies be granted for ten years from January 1910.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* predicts a temporary depression in the silk market. Its analysis is that the great activity of the past few weeks was due to speculative purchases in anticipation of Mr. Taft's election, and that the latter event being now assured, there will be a reaction until the large stock imported into the States can be digested. Already America has bought 20 or 30 thousand yen more than she had purchased in the corresponding period of last year.

It is much to be feared that the crime of infanticide in Siam is on a large scale, and that measures for the preservation of the lives of infants are most urgent. During the past few months, we have recorded facts where bodies of infants were found floating in the klongs of the city and the river Menam, says the *Siam Free Press*. We have never heard, however, that the police have taken any steps to trace up the guilty party, as no persons, to our knowledge, have been convicted of consigning infants, whether living or dead, to the waterways of the town. This being the case, perpetrators of such crimes appear to have no fear of being detected.

At the official inauguration of an Exhibition of Chinese Porcelain at Shanghai on the 17th inst. Mr. T. W. Kingsmill said that in the unavoidable absence of Sir Pelham Warren, President of the North China branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, he had been asked to welcome the visitors to the opening day. This exhibition was a new departure for Shanghai and he was very glad to see, from the number of those present, that the efforts of the Committee were appreciated. He thanked the many collectors who had come forward to help in the exhibition which would be recorded as one of the finest collections of Chinese ceramic art ever seen in any part of the world. Mr. D. Landale declared the Exhibition open and other speakers were Mr. Charles Denby, U.S. Consul-General, and Mr. C. O. Liddell, Chairman of the Asiatic Society's Committee. The latter said that the Committee's thanks were particularly due to Viceroy Tuan Fang who had sent some wonderful antiques, and to the Shanghai Taotai, through whose combined influence specimens had been received from Mr. Li Chi-bai of Canton who possessed a unique collection, the most famous in China, and from Mr. King Siao-san who had lent forty pieces of unusual interest. Other notable Chinese collectors exhibiting were Mr. Wong Tsz-chang, Mr. Kai Han-teen, Mr. Liu Wen toh and other Chinese friends. In this connexion the Committee was fortunate in being able to command the influence of Dr. J. C. Ferguson with his numerous Chinese friends. Generous support had also been received from the Committee's Chinese colleagues, Mr. Shen Tun-ho, Mr. Ho El-may, Mr. Zun Sing-ching and Mr. Wong Chia-sun, who had all rendered valuable assistance. Last, but assuredly not least, he would speak of the invaluable services of the Honorary Secretary, Mr. A. W. Bahr, whose untiring energy in organisation had relieved the Committee of much anxiety.



## THE FUTURE OF CHINA.

(Daily Press, 14 November.)

The story of the awakening of China, as it is outlined in the speeches delivered by Sir ROBERT HART at Belfast, has attracted the wide attention at Home which the engrossing interest of the story no less than the high authority of the speaker certainly justifies. To the resident in China who is as acquainted as he ought to be with the history of foreign intercourse with the great empire, the speeches contain, perhaps, little that is new, but facts which may be familiar possess a new interest when related by one who has been so prominently identified in the making of them as Sir ROBERT HART has been. In all the speeches Sir ROBERT has made since he returned to England he has spoken confidently of the future progress of China. What has so far been accomplished he regards as but the laying of the foundations for further development. It is all, as he most aptly explained, "the natural and logical outcome of the many forces that have been at work, where, more especially, a powerful and progressive Christian civilisation which aimed at shaping the future, and of whose ethics the keynote is the word 'Do!' came into contact with a seemingly somnolent and antiquated society, whose only ambition seemed to be to continue what had been and reproduce the golden age it dreamt of as its glorious past—a past in which the Confucian 'Do not!' was the soul of its golden rule. The clash of internationalism and the play of conflicting interests have, however, opened men's eyes and given new views of environment, and the successes of the future will go to those who know best how to use all that nature provides for humanity in things, in men, in opportunity." That is the case everywhere. It is when Sir ROBERT speaks of the future—not of the present or the past—that we find him most interesting. In his speech acknowledging the address presented to him by the Belfast Chamber of Commerce Sir ROBERT, while expressing his belief that trade will go on growing, slowly perhaps, but steadily, added these words, in which he seems to doubt his premises, so far at least as imports are concerned:—"Foreign trade is a luxury, and not a necessity, and even if it does continue to increase, the Chinese themselves will acquire a larger share in its direct manipulation, and will less and less depend on foreign middlemen at home or abroad. And not only will they do this, but Chinese manufacturers at some future day will compete with foreign goods not only in China itself, but elsewhere." This is, indeed, dipping a long way into the future, and, with all due respect, we venture to say that these are visions which need not trouble the present nor the next generation of traders. There are few countries in the world which could not describe foreign trade as a luxury with quite as much reason as China. Japan, for instance, considered foreign trade a luxury and rigorously isolated herself from the world for two hundred years; but, in spite of the increasing manufacture of foreign goods in recent years by Japanese mills, the volume of annual imports into Japan shows steady growth. The goods which fifty years ago were regarded in Japan as luxuries have, with the changing times, come to be considered necessities; and what has happened in Japan in this regard may be expected to happen also in China. Sir ROBERT told his audience that there are now some three thousand foreign firms established in China, the majority being Japanese in respect of numbers, though perhaps not representing

anything like the greater part of the capital invested. We may add to this information that these foreign firms are mainly on the fringe of the Empire. As China becomes gradually covered with a network of railways, and the Chinese Government develops its policy of opening international centres of foreign trade in the interior we may surely look forward to a great increase in the number of foreign firms in China before the dawn of that far-off era when the Chinaman will be in a position to dispense with the foreign middleman. That time, like the Millennium, may come one day, but it is a long way off yet; and the day when the foreign import trade will steadily tend to diminish is, we venture to think, farther off still. We ought to look forward with confidence to tremendous growth, for the awakening of China spells increased opportunities for trade. Nor need the prospect of China herself competing at some future day with foreign goods strike dismay. International trade has a habit of expanding with the industrial and scientific development of nations, and we can see no reason for believing that China will prove an exception to the rule.

## THE LATE EMPEROR OF CHINA.

(Daily Press, November 16th)

China is suddenly plunged into mourning. The EMPEROR, who has long been in feeble health, is dead. The nomination of an Her Apparent and the appointment of a Regent on Friday were plain indications that the Court physicians regarded the EMPEROR's position as extremely critical. The EMPRESS DOWAGER, the telegram informs us, is also ill, so that PRINCE CHUN, the Emperor's brother has suddenly been called upon to assume the reins of government, his son, the new Emperor, being a child of but three or four years of age. It may be recalled that the Emperor KWANG-HSU was himself but four years of age when he was chosen to succeed to the Throne in 1875 on the sudden death of the Emperor TUNG-CHIH in the eighteenth year of his age. The two Empresses—of the Eastern and Western Palaces—were appointed Regents, but the former died in 1881 leaving the present Empress Dowager sole regent. Her Majesty continued in that relation to the Emperor until 1887 when (by Western reckoning) the Emperor had reached the age of sixteen and then she withdrew, for a time, from the scene, but remained still the power behind the Throne, for in his first imperial Edict the youthful Emperor said: "When I heard of the decree (from the Empress Dowager handing over to him the reins of government) I trembled as if I were in mid-ocean, not knowing where the land lay. Her Majesty will, however, continue to advise me for a few years longer on important affairs of State. I shall not dare to be indolent, and in obedience to the Empress's command, I have petitioned Heaven, Earth and my Ancestors that I may assume the administration of the Government in person on the 15th day of the first moon in the thirtieth year of my reign. Guided by the counsel of Her Majesty everything will be done with care."

In time, however, and in the process of obeying the exhortation of the Empress Dowager that he should "develop his mind, pay unremitting attention to the administration of the government, and love his people," the Emperor gradually ceased to be in sympathy with the counsel of Her

Majesty. He was of a studious disposition and his studies led him to take a view of the needs of China which was diametrically opposed to that taken by the Empress Dowager. The crisis was reached at the time of the war with Japan. KWANG YU WEI, the Reformer, in an article in the *Contemporary Review* stated the position in these terms: "At the beginning of the war with Japan the Emperor and his Ministers wanted war. The Empress Dowager and LI-HUNG CHANG wanted peace. The Empress Dowager was ready to give up Manchuria and Formosa. The Emperor could not think of it for a moment without crying with distress; he wanted to make an alliance with England and to reform, while the Empress Dowager was equally bent on an alliance with Russia without reform." The Empress Dowager won in the struggle in the end, but before that time came the Emperor, stiffened in his purpose by the rise of a Reform Party with KWANG YU WEI at their head, issued in 1898 his famous Reform Edicts concerning (1) freedom to memorialise the Throne; (2) the introduction of foreign subjects in the examinations; (3) the foundation of a new University at Peking; (4) turning temples into schools; (5) establishing a translating bureau and a patent office; (6) sending young Manchus abroad for studies; (7) abolishing superfluous officials. The zeal of the Reformers was unflagging and they secured many successes in the direction of modern reforms and the reorganisation of education and government. But it was all too drastic and too sudden. In an official dispatch Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD wrote: "Imperial decrees intended to launch China on the path of reform continue to appear, though there are few signs of any of them taking practical effect. The Emperor is evidently learning that it is one thing to issue a reform edict and another to get it obeyed." Three days after those words were penned came the memorable *coup d'état* at the Palace when the Empress Dowager once more took the reins of government in her own hands, the Emperor announcing the usurpation in a meek and submissive decree in which he referred to the affairs of the nation as being in a difficult position and everything awaiting reform; how, in coping with the multitude of affairs he feared that he would be overwhelmed, and, "moved by a deep regard for the welfare of the nation," he had repeatedly implored Her Majesty to be graciously pleased to advise him in the government. Thereafter appeared an Edict in the Emperor's name, but certainly not composed by him, repealing all the reforms, and many of the reformers were executed. Thus the Empress Dowager recovered her ascendancy and the Emperor once more became what, but for those four short months of the Reform Era he was throughout his reign, an Emperor in name only. The reader is familiar with the fact that the overthrow of the Reform party and the ascendancy of the Empress Dowager produced an immediate outbreak of hostilities against foreigners culminating in the march of the allied troops to Peking and the flight of the Court. During this troublous period, known in history as the rising of the Boxers, the Emperor issued an Edict stating that as he was suffering from an incurable disease and it was impossible for him to beget a son, he had humbly implored Her Sacred Majesty carefully to select from among the near branches of the Imperial Family a good and worthy member who should found a line of posterity and to whom the Throne should revert. "After repeated entreaties" Her Majesty, the



Edict said, had deigned to grant her consent that P'U CHUN, son of TSAI YI, PRINCE TUAN, should be adopted as the Heir Apparent. Prince TUAN was the most notorious of the reactionary crowd of counsellors on whom the Empress Dowager then relied. But in less than two years TUAN's son was deposed, for the result of the Boxer rising taught the Empress-Dowager that the way of China's salvation was along the path sketched by the weak but intelligent Emperor whose authority she had usurped; and since that time we have witnessed a succession of Reform Edicts which have embraced practically the whole scheme of reform which was announced by the Emperor while he was under the influence of KWANG-YU-WEI and his colleagues. The last decade has, to be sure, seen marvellous changes in China, and in the arrangements which have been made for the succession to the Throne we may find assurance that the Reformation will be advanced.

As we have said, the son of Prince CHUN is an infant, but his father, the Regent, has been prominently identified with the new policy. It will be recalled that Prince CHUN was chosen to proceed to Berlin on the expiatory mission to beg forgiveness for the murder of Baron VON KETTELER. Since then His Imperial Highness has served as Grand Councillor and early in the present year he was appointed a member of the Commission of Constitutional Reform and of the Government Council. These facts in his career, slight as they are, give us hope of an enlightened rule and that the training the infant Emperor will receive will be such as to fit him for the tremendous responsibilities which will devolve upon the ruler of an enlightened and progressive China.

### THE REGENCY.

(Daily Press, November 17th.)

The death of Her Majesty the EMPRESS DOWAGER OF CHINA, following so closely upon the death of the EMPEROR, creates some uneasiness in the public mind as regards a peaceful succession to the Throne. While the EMPRESS-DOWAGER lived there was no reason to fear any attempt to upset the arrangement proclaimed last Friday. But now that the EMPRESS DOWAGER is no more the immediate future does not wear so peaceful an aspect. What is now thought possible is that Prince CHING may oppose the succession, not so much perhaps the nomination of the baby Emperor as the appointment of his royal father as Regent. Under the proclamation of last Friday the reins of government pass immediately into the hands of the late Emperor's brother, Prince CHUN, as Regent during the infancy of his young son whom the dying Emperor adopted as his son and heir to the Throne.

As was mentioned in yesterday's *Daily Press*, there exists no law of hereditary succession in China, and it is left to each sovereign to appoint his successor from among the members of his family. Prince TUAN's son had the first claim to consideration and was, in fact, proclaimed Heir Apparent in 1898, but when, after the Boxer troubles, Prince TUAN was banished for life, his son was deposed and has since been living in Peking in honourable captivity. Ignoring his claims, the next possible candidate for Imperial succession was the baby who has now been proclaimed Emperor of China. Apart from the fact that the REGENT went on the disagreeable expiatory mission to Berlin to express the regret

of the Throne for the murder of the German Ambassador in the streets of the capital, little is known of him. He has since been a Supernumary Grand Councillor and a few months ago he became a member of the Commission of Constitutional Reform and of the Government Council. Prince CHING is not in the direct line of succession. He is an Imperial Clansman, however, was created a Prince of the second order in 1884 and of the first order ten years later. For the last quarter of a century the Prince has been prominently identified with the Government, and has held some of the highest offices in the State. He has been President of the Tsung-Li Yamen (under its old name as well as under its new designation) a vice-President of the Imperial Clan Court, Grand Chamberlain, Director-General of the Board of Admiralty, and has held many high military appointments, including that of Comptroller-General of the Army Board. He stood high in Imperial favour, but was disliked by the late Emperor. Whether the dislike was mutual we do not know, nor are we able to say whether these relations exist between the veteran statesman and the late EMPEROR's brother, the present REGENT. If so, this may to some extent explain the apprehensions which are now whispered. It must be remembered, however, that Prince CHING is old and feeble. His age is seventy-two, and he does not appear to be over strong in health. His son, Duke TSAI-CHEN, was the special Ambassador to England on the occasion of the Coronation, and has occupied the posts of President of the Board of Commerce, Minister of the Prefecture, and went on a special mission to Manchuria in the winter of 1906. He resigned all appointments in May 1907, and has since apparently been living a retired life. This talk of trouble over the succession naturally gives rise to speculation as to the attitude of the Army in such a contingency, and it is remarked as a coincidence which is probably more accidental than significant that YUAN SHI-KAI has obtained "sick leave." Prince CHING and YUAN SHI-KAI were associated together on the Army Reorganisation Council of 1903 and are intimate friends. That is all that can be said for the present on the subject. Possibly much depends on the initial acts of the REGENT. So long as the EMPRESS-DOWAGER remained alive things very likely would have gone on as before with every prospect of peace. The Court would have undergone very little change. It is to be gathered from the Edict announcing the choice of an Heir to the Throne that HER MAJESTY had hoped to live long enough to supervise the training of the infant for the great responsibilities he will be required to undertake. But this was not to be. The DOWAGER-EMPRESS appears to have died within a very few hours of the EMPEROR. This dual demise may be nothing more than a pure coincidence, but it is none the less fraught with serious possibilities. Prince CHUN has been brought suddenly out of obscurity to become *de facto* the Supreme Head of the Empire, free to exercise his own will, unrestrained by those ideas of filial piety and respect which kept the late EMPEROR so absolutely under the thumb of his Imperial mother (by adoption)—a reverence and fidelity extolled by CHANG CHIH TUNG in an ode as one of the late EMPEROR's greatest qualities. The present danger lies in this very freedom. The Chinese have a saying "a new Emperor will have a new Court." It is natural to expect that a new Emperor, or the Regent who acts for him, will have Ministers of his own choice, and in that event it

would follow that there would be great administrative changes in the land. If there exists any dissension over the succession, such sweeping changes would be certain to bring forth the fire out of the smoke, and for that reason it is possible that no sudden and sweeping changes will be made. Nothing much is to be feared, we think, from the Anti-Manchu movement, which cannot be regarded as a powerful organisation, and her late Majesty's conversion to the views of the Reformers has taken out of the sails of the Anti-Manchu movement a great deal of the wind which forced it into favourable notice. For the present, however, all is doubt and uncertainty, all "in the lap of the gods," and there we must leave it, but not without a hope that the country will be saved from internecine strife which will retard that progress and development which it is now the general wish in China to see steadily advanced.

### THE SITUATION IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, November 18th.)

The most sensational feature of the news emanating from Peking which we are enabled to publish to-day is the rumour that Prince TUAN who was banished to Manchuria for life a few years ago has assembled troops and is now marching on Peking with a view to dispute the succession. This rumour which reaches us via Canton, must have come by telegram from the North. It is at present unconfirmed from any other source, but that trouble is feared over the succession seems to be indicated by the orders to mass the troops near the capital. What force Prince TUAN is able to command in Manchuria is not clear, and it is, to say the least, extremely doubtful if the exiled Prince would secure much public support, should he return from banishment to claim the Throne for his son who was proclaimed Heir Apparent in 1898 and deposed two years later. Meanwhile it is of interest to note that there appears to be no truth in the rumour that H. E. YUAN SHI-KAI has obtained "sick leave." Telegrams from Peking represent him as being at the Imperial Palace together with Prince CHING and H. E. CHANG CHIH TUNG. With these—the three most influential men in China—surrounding the new Emperor and REGENT, and according them their loyal support, the enterprise, with which Prince TUAN is credited would be doomed to swift disappointment.

Turning now from these apprehensions to the interesting series of Edicts which have been published during the last few days, it is of especial interest to note in the last Edict of the Emperor KWANG Hsu the quiet assertion of his conviction that reform is necessary to the Empire's salvation, and that the schemes of reform which have been announced by Imperial Edicts are the outcome of his reasoning with the late EMPRESS-DOWAGER. His Majesty's dying wish was that the Empire may move steadily along the path of reform and that the people will be found ready for Constitutional Government at the time appointed for the great change. May we not infer from this that mentally at least the late Emperor was not the decadent that he was commonly assumed to have been? This death-bed confession seems to bear out the opinion formed by Miss CARL, who had most exceptional opportunities of studying him, namely, that he was shrewd and intelligent, well informed by wide reading, and a man who lacked not strength if he had wished to exert it. In Western eyes his great failing has been that he has not asserted himself; while in China



this is accounted the highest of virtues. So enlightened a man as CHANG CHIH TUNG wrote of this expression of filial piety: "Who does not admire the filial reverence and piety with which he waits upon his august mother? Setting a brilliant example to all, he inquires early and late after her well being and watches over her meals in person. Let us now add a new ode extolling to the skies our Emperor's fidelity to his Imperial Mother." It is difficult for Europeans to understand that this filial reverence can be carried to the extent of such self-repression as we are asked to believe the late Emperor to have practised. Yet in this Edict issued from the death-bed of the Emperor is revealed the fact that he had not wavered in his belief in Reform since his virtual suppression by the Empress-Dowager. Though her ideas were paramount in sight of the public we may read between the lines of this valedictory Edict that in the privacy of the Palace the Emperor continued by patient discussion to educate his august mother up to the point of adopting the entire programme of reform, the enunciation of which ten years ago led to his virtual deposition as a dangerous lunatic. To the very last he was a Reformer, for his final command was that the national period of mourning should be shortened to twenty-seven days,—an injunction which has been over-ruled by the advisers of his successor and it is ordained that the Court shall go into mourning for three years!

### THE CHINESE SKY-GOD.

(Daily Press, November 19th.)

Recently, from the 15th to the 18th September, the Third International Congress for the History of Religions was held at Oxford, and many papers of interest, or the opposite, were read. Of course, from the nature of the subject matter the Congress had nothing to do with doctrinal theology, being only concerned with the history and anthropology of the various religions under discussion. Largely the papers read showed in how many points the various developments of religious belief from whatever country, or whatever race they had been collected, coincided; but this, it is natural to presume, in each case proceeded from the fact that mankind is human, and that even in its relations with the invisible it cannot escape from the bonds and limitations of human instinct. A formidable programme, dividing the business before the meeting into nine sections, each with its president, was prepared; and each president had to give his presidential address, so that at first sight a large increase in our exoteric knowledge of the religion or religions, of the world might have been anticipated. If so the result hardly coincided with the hope, and little progress seems to have been made. Perhaps it proved to be the case, that in excluding the esoteric element all the discussions lost their main ground of interest. An instance of this was afforded in the presidential address on Celtic Religions delivered by Sir JOHN RHYS. Fifty years ago every one supposed he had quite sufficient knowledge on the subject; men, presumed to be learned, discussed druids and priests, and rites and sacrifices, as if they knew all about them; and history books told the then rising generation these imaginings, as if they were stern incontrovertible facts. Later study of the few authorities that we possess have long ago decided that these romantic tales of white-robed processions, and congregations of kneeling worshippers, which have played so prominent a part in our supposed history, must all be

relegated to the realm of Fancy. Sir JOHN RHYS in pointing this out to his hearers merely confirmed on his high authority what had been before accepted by the more sober of archeologists. What he stated as to the "precarious" nature of our evidence as to Celtic religions, and the fact that our knowledge was "inferential only" may well be borne in mind by many of our professors to knowledge of subjects nearer home.

An instance of this was afforded by Professor GILES, speaking on Chinese religion. He told his hearers that the Chinese had a sky-god, T'ien, who received, however, neither respect nor sacrifice, and that eventually this power became an abstraction. Now we are not going to cavil at this explanation, which, as we all know, contains a large measure of truth. If we only look at the matter exoterically, it by no means, even so contains the whole truth; and viewed esoterically, hardly contains any at all. It is not, for instance, true that T'ien receives neither respect nor sacrifice; the exception here, as in so many other cases, going far to establish the rule. T'ien, in fact, receives so high honour and exalted sacrifice that only the EMPEROR himself is competent to offer them; T'ien, and T'ien alone, being his superior in the celestial hierarchy. Nor is this cult of any late or modern introduction; historically, indeed, it may claim to be the direct descendant of the ancient worship paid to the Celestial Powers by the remote ancestors of the imperial Chinese in the realms of the traditional Aryan Vaejo, far off in Central Asia. The Parsi Vendidad tells how Yima, first of mortals, stepped forth to the glowing south to meet the Sun; pressed the earth with his golden harrow, and bored it with his goad; still annually the EMPEROR OF CHINA at the equinox performs the like rite, in deference to the great Ruler of the Heavens, his only superior, and the only object whom he may condescend to worship in his capacity of heaven's representative on earth. But having gone so far afield, we may profitably pursue the subject a little further; T'ien is in fact the modern Chinese representative of one of the oldest of religious generalisations. The idea is found in practically all the older religions of the world as the deity who presides over the Sky, and whose power stretches from zenith to horizon all round. As Lord of the over-reaching sky, he has command of the storms and the thunder and his name as stretch-er or thunder-er for the two fade almost insensibly one into the other—is to be found in nearly all the principal languages of Europe and Asia. The Greek word *tonos*, implying both a spanning and a sound, is a good example; a similar one is found in the Gothic *than-ya* to stretch, extend, and old Saxon *Thunar*, thunder, the Latin *ton-itrus*. But in all these languages we find a form of the word applied likewise to the great Sky God, originally the "Extender" but who in all came to be likewise the "Thunderer" who wields his bolt for the punishment of the evil-doer.

It is instructive to find not only the same idea, but the same word entering into the earliest Chinese with which we are acquainted, the Shi King. In its old ballads, which both chronologically and in subject matter may be compared with the balladry woven into the epics of HOMER, we find the Sky God invariably spoken of as T'ientse, for the application of this term to the reigning sovereign did not occur till centuries later, when Chow had long ceased to be anything more than a mere name. But the word, now called in modern Chinese T'ientse, was in the old days pronounced T'ien-er, or Thunar, the *ee* being only

the nominal ending, still surviving in North China as the sound represented by *er*. In the Ballads, and notably in the Luh-Yue, the Wang is spoken of as acting under the orders of T'ientse; in the second verse of the ballad mentioned (Shi, II. iii), we are told in so many words:—"The King takes command of the expedition. As the vice-regent of T'ientse" not here the "son of Heaven"—an invention of later days—but the "Spanner" himself, whose realm included all under the heaven. T'ientse, thus becomes the early Chinese equivalent of the Celtic Thunar, better known to us in his Norse title of Thor; but not only of the Norse Thor, but as well of the Vedic Indra, whose name and attributes we find to have been precisely similar.

But we can go further afield. When the Hellenes, as descendants of Herakles overran Greece, and dispossessed the old Pelasgic inhabitants, they yet respected their exalted deity, the northern Thor: of all fanes in their new country they held in highest reverence that of the "Pelasgic" Zeus at Dodona in Epirus. But the name Dodona here betrays its origin: it is in fact but the Hellenic pronunciation of Celtic Thor-tona, where the final *tona*, is the same adjectival termination as in *Cor-tona*, *Pop-luna*, &c. Though Thor had given place to the more particularly Aryan Zeus, (the Sanscrit Dyaus, Lithuanian Devas), the fane, Thor-tona, "Place of Thor", still remained to show what was the real character of the worship to which it was dedicated. Want of sufficient knowledge to grasp the ancient phonetic relations of the language, has in this, as in so many other instances, been the cause of the popular idea as to the presumed isolated nature of Ancient China. As a fact, the more we study the remains of the elder language handed down across the stream of the ages, the more have we to recognise the identity in language and thought of the old settlers from the West in Northern China, and the wide-spread, fair-haired race from which we ourselves claim descent, and which has likewise given us its primitive cult and civilisation.

### BUILDING COLLAPSES IN HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, November 20th.)

The public, we venture to suggest, are entitled to some explanation of the Government's action with regard to the verdicts given by the coroners' juries who spent many days inquiring into the circumstances attending the deaths of several persons killed as the result of the collapse of buildings in the typhoon of last July. In both cases a verdict of manslaughter was returned against the persons who supervised the erection of the buildings. In the one case the person committed to take his trial on this charge was a Chinaman who had received no payment for his supervision; in the other case the charge was laid against one of the European architects authorised by the Government to practice in the Colony. An indictment was filed by the ATTORNEY-GENERAL in the case of the Chinaman; he was tried at the last Criminal Sessions, and convicted. He was, however, sentenced to only one day's imprisonment, but the CHIEF JUSTICE clearly indicated that, had the man been paid for his supervision, his punishment would have been more severe. So far as the evidence given at the Coroner's inquests went, the case against the European architect was on all fours with that of the Chinaman, the chief point of difference being that the European was paid for his work while the other was not. But the ATTORNEY-GENERAL it appears



has not found a "true bill" against the European. In the ordinary course, the case should have come on for trial at the Criminal Sessions, but when the CHIEF JUSTICE took his seat on Wednesday the ATTORNEY-GENERAL pleasantly informed His Lordship that there were no indictments on the file. The public is thus left to infer that a case in which great public interest centred has been quietly abandoned, and we may add the public has not been slow to make random guesses as to the reason. We have no hesitation in saying that it is contrary to the public interest that the case should have been dropped without a public explanation of the reasons. What other view can the Crown expect the public to take of the matter in the circumstances than that this is a glaring instance of partiality in the administration of the law? In point of fact this is the interpretation commonly being given to the matter, and it is much to be regretted that the ATTORNEY-GENERAL did not find some means of making public his reason for declining to file the indictment desired by the Coroner's jury. To suppose for one moment that the action of the Crown has been influenced by "fear, favour or affection" is absurd: the ATTORNEY-GENERAL doubtless had good reasons for thinking that it would be impossible for him to secure a conviction in the case. This in itself, however, constitutes a reason why a public explanation should be made. At the Coroner's inquiry it was pleaded on behalf of the architects that they were protected by the Government certificate that the houses had been built in compliance with the provisions of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance. Now one of the provisions of the Ordinance of 1903 referred to is Section 100 which regulates the construction of walls and which reads as follows:—"Every wall constructed of brick, stone or other hard and incombustible substance shall be solid across its entire thickness and shall be properly bonded and substantially put together with cement mortar or good lime mortar composed of good cement or lime and clean sharp sand, with red or yellow earth or other suitable material to the satisfaction of the Building Authority etc." The case therefore raised the question as to whether the architect is entirely absolved from responsibility when the Building Authority and the Medical Officer of Health jointly certify that a house "has been built in compliance with the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance." For our part we do not think the Government justified in giving a certificate in those terms. All that the Government can certify—and all, in our judgment, that the Government ought to be required to certify—is that a house has been built in accordance with the plans officially approved. But the terms of the Government certificate certainly cover a great deal more than that; and it would be of public interest to know whether the abandonment of the case implies the Government's acceptance of the entire responsibility? We are concerned only with the general public aspects of the matter, and would very much regret if our comments were read as in any sense a personal attack upon the architect whose misfortune it is to be so conspicuously connected with the matter. Nothing is farther from our intention than that. We do not doubt that some good reason for the abandonment of the case exists, and all we desire and all we suggest is that the reason should be as publicly made known as was the fact of the Coroner's committal of the architect for trial. We urge this primarily

with a view to the maintenance of public confidence in the impartial administration of justice and, incidentally, in order that the general public may know whether, in the opinion of the law officers of the Crown, builders and architects are entirely absolved from responsibility immediately a Government certificate has been granted.

### DEATH OF PRINCE CHING.

(Daily Press, November 22.)

It is perhaps inevitable that the air should be thick with rumours of intrigues and tragedies at Peking just now, but it is scarcely necessary to say that these sinister rumours should not be unreservedly accepted. Following as it does so closely upon the demise of the EMPEROR KWANG HSU and the aged EMPRESS DOWAGER, the announcement of the sudden death of PRINCE CHING possibly serves to strengthen in the public mind the suspicion that some malign agency is at work in the Capital, bent on the extermination of all about the Court. We have had the rumour that the death of the EMPRESS DOWAGER was accomplished by poison administered by someone identified with the anti-dynastic movement; another rumour has declared the child Emperor to be dead; and now it is suggested that PRINCE CHING has committed suicide. The second rumour, certainly may be dismissed as a pure invention, and we very much doubt whether either of the others has any foundation in fact. Both the EMPRESS DOWAGER and PRINCE CHING exceeded the three score years and ten laid down by the Psalmist as the natural span of life; both were extremely feeble, and it requires no great stretch of the imagination to realise that the death of the EMPEROR must have thrown upon the aged EMPRESS DOWAGER, and upon PRINCE CHING a load of anxiety and care which was too much for their enfeebled constitutions to bear. In the message regarding the PRINCE's death which has reached the Colony, it is stated that His HIGHNESS was overwhelmed with sorrow on learning of the death of the EMPEROR and EMPRESS DOWAGER, and was troubled because he was not appointed to take part in the enthronement of the present monarch. He consequently feared that he would "lose face" under the new régime—and the public are left to attribute the death to natural or unnatural causes, according to the inclination of the individual reader. Those who expected an upheaval at Peking aimed at giving to PRINCE CHING the guardianship of the Throne are naturally prone to suspicion. Let us hope that the long chapter of the venerable statesman's useful life has not been terminated in any other than the most peaceful manner. By all foreign diplomats who have come into contact with him, PRINCE CHING was held in the highest respect. As the President for many years of the Taougli-Yamen (the Board of Foreign Affairs) his relations with the Legations were intimate. As soon as His HIGHNESS entered upon the duties of that important office, in 1884, in succession to PRINCE KUNG, a great improvement was remarked in the efficiency of that body. The author of "The Englishman in China," the late Mr. MICHIE, whom Dr. MORRISON succeeded as *Times* correspondent at Peking, remarked of him: "Prince CHING, though new to public affairs, acquitted himself like a gentleman, and gained the goodwill of all the foreign Legations by his laborious efforts to learn his work, and to bring justice and reason as well as courtesy into the transaction of business." The PRINCE has ever since stood high in the

esteem of the diplomats. Nor will it be forgotten that in the Boxer *outrage* of 1900 the massacre of all who were confined in the Legations was averted only by the delays caused by his courageous action in pleading for the lives of the foreigners, and representing the shortsightedness of the policy that would sacrifice them. His HIGHNESS since he entered public life has filled many of the highest offices of the State and proved himself an enlightened and a capable statesman. The nation at this critical juncture can ill-afford to spare him, and we can confidently say that in the Legation quarter at Peking His HIGHNESS's death will be recognised as a serious loss to China. At a time when the nation is on the very threshold of a reformation it is a national misfortune to lose the valuable help of a statesman of the commanding ability and wide experience of the late President of the Waiwupu. But regrets are vain and we have only to add that His HIGHNESS goes down to the grave full of years and honours—revered by his own people and honoured and respected by the diplomatic representatives of the leading nations of the world.

### RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

What a quick change was noticeable in the dress of our citizens this week! On Wednesday men and women were sporting their light summer attire, but through the night winter made its presence felt and people on rising made straight to their wardrobes and their trunks and brought out warmer garments to meet the decidedly "parky" feel of the atmosphere. Overcoats too have become fashionable all at once. The cold snap however helps us to realise that Christmas is near.

Shopkeepers have also realised that Christmas is near. Despite the general depression and the dropping dollar the purchasing power of our European residents never was stronger than it has been this last week. Wherever I went I encountered friends and acquaintances on shopping bent or else helping to swell the crowds which daily besieged the registration department of the Post Office. Notwithstanding the protests of the native shopkeeper that he "makes loss" at the price to which he had been beaten down, his smile seemed more expansive than ever these last few days, and the purchasers who did not buy until the closing days, learned to their cost that the prices of many articles had gone up since the beginning of the week. After all there is nothing like the advice given in cheap sale announcements at home "come early and avoid the crush."

Perhaps at no other time in the year does the low dollar pinch so many as the present. Friends at home have to be remembered, yearly accounts have to be met, and the necessary remittances call for a greater expenditure than is necessary when the dollar has a higher sterling value. It is "hard lines" that the dollar should reach its lowest exchange value just at this time of the year, but we must take the bitter with the sweet.

The law is a hass. So must we think when we read that according to a Police Court magistrate's decision the householder who is annoyed by the barking of a neighbour's dog has no legal remedy. To obtain this he must convert himself into a pedestrian, a passer-by. If he walks past the dog and it barks at him he can prosecute with some prospect of success the owner of the offending animal, but should he chance to live near to it—well, that is his misfortune. He must grin and bear it—unless an accident happens to the dog.

H. E. the Governor and party had a trip to Macao yesterday, but I have not heard how they fared at "yat, yee, sam, sze."

That versatile nobleman, Lord Roslyn, has been distinguishing himself again by a system "to break the bank," but like all the others it



has a plan somewhere. I have met a number of Macao trippers who also had systems, but, singularly enough, none of them had particularly large balances at the bank.

The members of the A. D. C. are working hard at "The Country Girl". It is a big undertaking, but we have the talent in Hongkong, if only the Talent can afford to devote the necessary time to the practices, which are now almost daily. The piece is to run for six nights, commencing on December 2nd, and I am sure the performers can rely on the public showing its appreciation of their efforts in the usual manner—bumper houses every night.

Some people have been taking the Sanitary Board to task for not having the courage to make expectoration in public places a punishable offence, but as the Chinese have suffered so much in the past from unintentional oppressive legislation, we can quite appreciate the hesitation of the Board to add another to the list of "thou shalt nots." At the same time no one will gainsay the necessity of measures to restrict the filthy practice which is so offensively patent on the sidewalks and in buildings where Chinese loiter, but the great point to be remembered is that their ways are not our ways and that we cannot expect to Europeanise a Celestial by legislation or visits to his domicile by uniformed inspectors.

Our Hongkong courts are dull and prosaic compared with those at Manila. I have just read a "comic drama" which took place in Judge Crossfield's court the other day, between Dominador Gomez and Felipe Buencamino. It doesn't matter how the argument began, but it had not proceeded any great length when Buencamino's abilities as a lawyer were called in question by his opponent and in reply he insinuated that the other man did not cut much ice anyway and had lost face with the Filipino people. Gomez retorted with some reflections on the ancestry of his rival, and the fire continued until the judge told them to "shut up." The second scene in the comedy took place at the adjournment when Buencamino "who feared the violence of the doughty doctor, who is held to be a scrapper of no mean ability", beat a hasty retreat to the sanctum of sanctums of the Supreme Court, the library, and when Gomez pursued him thither he stood at the door and threatened him with terrible anathema should he dare to cross the threshold. Gomez thereupon camped on the outer side of an imaginary line drawn from post to post of the doorway and held Buencamino prisoner in the library for the space of half an hour, all the while heaping insult upon the head of the vernerable attorney, the two consigning one another to hotter climes and less congenial surroundings. At length a curious crowd gathered to watch the show, and word of the disturbance of the peace having been carried to the sheriff, that official appeared on the scene and restored harmony for the time being. Everyone then started for the street where the wordy warfare was continued.

RODERICK RANDOM.

#### HONGKONG.

The Corinthian Yacht Club of Hongkong has now a membership of 250 and a fleet of 42 yachts and motor boats.

The autumn crop of rice is being harvested in the Shatin district. The result all round is a poor crop this season.

Mr. T. H. King has been appointed to act as Assistant Superintendent of the Hongkong Police during the absence on leave of Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse, or until further notice.

The public are eagerly looking forward to the A.D.C. production of "The Country Girl" in the first week of December. It will be a costly production for the Club, for special scenery, and dresses as well as new and original effects are required. Mr. John Robertson, as the stage manager, has undertaken no light responsibility, but the splendid proofs he has already supplied of his knowledge of stage craft abundantly assure the community that they can look forward to the performance of "The Country Girl" with full confidence that it will be well up to the high standard of all the previous efforts of the Club.

A commencement has been made with the works in connection with the Admiralty dock, one of the workshops having started. It will be probably a year before the pumping installation is completed.

A batch of 40 deportees arrived from Singapore by the s.s. *Hong Bee* on Nov. 17, and have been quartered in the compound at the Central Police Station. They will be forwarded to their homes in China in due course.

After a service of seventeen years in the Hongkong Police Force, first-class Inspector Ritchie intends to retire. It is expected that Mr. Ritchie will return to the homeland sometime next month. The good wishes of his many civilian friends, as well as his comrades in the Force, will go with him.

The extradition case in which the Chinese Government sought the surrender of Chan Sum Cheung on a charge of armed robbery with the jurisdiction of China was concluded before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on the 10th inst. The defendant, who was represented by Mr. John Hastings (of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings) was discharged, but on the application of Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, was re-arrested on a charge of armed robbery and murder.

An interesting function took place at the King's Park Range, Kowloon, on the 16th inst., when Major Chitty and the officers of the Mahratta Regiment held an "at home" on the occasion of the presentation of prizes won at the recent meeting of the United Services Rifle Association. His Excellency the Governor attended and distributed the prizes. The largest number of cups went to the Middlesex Regiment, the officers of the native regiments also coming in for a good share. Music added to the attractions of the afternoon. Cheers for His Excellency concluded the proceedings.

On Nov. 14th a pretty wedding was solemnised at St. John's Cathedral when Mr. G. Moreton Smith, of Dodwell and Company, was married to Miss Annie Irwin, of Belfast. Mr. Blason acted as best man, and the bride was attended by Misses Doris and Veda Grimble and Dodo Ritchie. The Rev. F. T. Johnson officiated and the service was fully choral. Mr. Denman Fuller presiding at the organ. The hymns were "The Voice that breathed o'er Eden" and "O perfect love." The bride was given away by Mr. E. G. Barrett at whose residence, Hazeldene, a reception was afterwards held. The happy couple later left for Macao where the honeymoon is to be spent.

Commendador Joao J. Leiria, Consul-General for Portugal and Brazil, was "At Home" at his residence, "Duart," Arbuthnot Road, on Sunday the 15th inst. on the occasion of the 19th birthday of His Most Faithful Majesty, the King of Portugal, Dom Manuel II. The 19th anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Brazil was also duly honoured. His Excellency the Governor called on the Consul on the previous day, as he was going to Macao on the 15th. Among those who called to offer congratulations were His Excellency General Broadwood and his A.D.C., members of the Consular Corps and numerous civilians. A magnificent blue and white, splendidly worked silk national flag was on view, which is to be presented to the Club Lusitano by Mrs. J. Leiria. Consul-General J. J. Leiria subsequently left for Macao to attend the official ball given by the Governor of Macao.

A heterogeneous collection of articles was offered for sale to the cosmopolitan assemblage on the compound of the Roman Catholic Cathedral on Sunday the 15th inst. There the annual charitable bazaar held under the auspices of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul took place, and attracted as large a crowd as in former years. The compound, which was lighted up by numerous Chinese lanterns, presented an animated appearance, and the music discoursed by the 13th Rajputs enlivened the proceedings. The most attractive illumination was the picture in transparency of the patron saint of the Society, the work of Mr. M. Baptista. The various stallholders conducted a thriving business, His Excellency the Governor being present and lending a helping hand to the cause of the promoters. The Bazaar was continued on Monday evening.

An interim dividend of thirty cents on account of 1908, payable on the 27th inst. is announced by Messrs A. S. Watson & Co.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased, with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to appoint Mr. C. McI. Messer to be Postmaster-General, Mr. J. H. Kemp to be Head of the Sanitary Department, Mr. J. R. Wood to be Deputy Registrar and Appraiser, Supreme Court, and Mr. G. N. Orme to be Assistant Land Officer for the southern district of the New Territories, with effect from November 18th.

The first annual athletic meeting of the recently formed Hongkong Amateur Athletic Association was held on the 14th inst. at King's Park, Kowloon, and proved very successful. There might have been more starters in the various events, but those who did come forward made a very good exhibition. The hurdle race was perhaps the most interesting event of the programme, with the exception of the mile race for Asiatic troops. Prizes were awarded by Sir Paul Chater, Messrs. R. Shewan, H. R. B. Hancock, F. B. Deacon, the Kowloon Cricket Club, the Staff of the Eastern Telegraph Company, and H. K. V. C. Officers' Mess.

Special services were held on the 15 inst. in the Roman Catholic Cathedral to celebrate the golden jubilee of His Holiness and on Monday High Pontifical Mass was celebrated, the officiating prelate being His Lordship Bishop D. Pozzoni, assisted by the Very Rev. Fr. Robert, Procurator of the Mission Etrangères; the Rev. Frs. Agostini, Spada and Leong, as Deacons, and the Rev. Fr. Lu as sub-deacon. At 5.30 p.m. the hymn "Tu es Petrus" will be sung, a short sermon in English was preached, and this was followed by an exposition of the Holy Sacrament, Te Deum, and Benediction. The choir sang selected hymns in conclusion. The Cathedral and St. Joseph's College were illuminated.

The net proceeds of the recent Bazaar held under the auspices of the Hongkong Ministering Children's League amount to \$1,000 which will be divided amongst the following charities:—

|                                      |         |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| The Hildesheim Mission Blind School  | \$300   |
| Victoria Home and Orphanage, Kowloon | 300     |
| Baxter Mission School                | 100     |
| Italian Convent                      | 100     |
| French Convent                       | 50      |
| Diocesan Girls School                | 50      |
| Berlin Foundling House               | 50      |
| London Missionary Society            | 50      |
|                                      | \$1,000 |

The Queen's College magazine remarks that it is peculiarly gratifying to find in the first batch of 36 students selected by examination to enter the Customs College at Peking no fewer than fourteen are from Queen's College—thirteen appearing on this year's roll. The writer in the magazine adds: "The success of these boys is one of the most remarkable recommendations we have ever received, and one of which we are emphatically proud. The more the list is examined, the more reason we have to feel elate: for of the seventeen successful candidates at the Canton centre, all but three are our pupils. We are told that among the nineteen other boys from the rest of China, there are probably some old Q.C. boys. We shall be glad to hear of them when their identity is satisfactorily established. From candidates who sat at Canton, we learn that above five hundred candidates offered themselves on the first day. After an examination in English reading and conversation, this number was reduced to eighty-one. It was these boys who were examined on the three subsequent days. The first two days were occupied with Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Grammar, Geography, Dictation, Physics, Chinese to English, and English to Chinese; on the last day, the subjects were Chinese Essay, letter in Chinese, and explanation of extracts from the Four Books. It will be seen that the examination was long and searching. Those who came through the ordeal with flying colours, have cause to be satisfied. We heartily congratulate our boys on their signal success. *Floreat Collegium Reginae!*"



## CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

November 14th.

## REGULATIONS AFFECTING NATURALISED FOREIGN SUBJECTS.

The Central Authorities have instructed the Viceroy of the different Provinces in China to enforce the following new regulations concerning Chinese who have become naturalized foreign subjects and who are still residing in China:—

1. Chinese who are foreign subjects will not be permitted to reside or travel in the interior of China as they wish.
2. They will not be permitted to join the army and the police force in China.
3. Such persons will not be allowed to attend meetings of the various associations in the interior of China.
4. Such persons will not be permitted to institute actions in any of the Chinese Courts.
5. The children and brothers of all such persons will not be permitted to enter any of the Government colleges and schools for education.

It is reported that the Viceroy of Canton has received instructions to enforce the above regulations in the Kwangtung Province.

## FIDELITY BONDS REQUIRED.

As a result of the embezzlement of Magistrate Wong Po Sum, His Excellency the Viceroy has notified the heads of all Civil and Military Departments in Canton that all officials in charge of Government funds must furnish bonds with substantial sureties and that those who are unable to furnish such bonds are requested to send in their resignations.

It is reported that Wong Po Sum left Macao a few days ago and is now on his way home to his native village in Chekiang. He is stated to have been hiding in Macao since he absconded from Canton. His wife, four concubines, and several children are now confined in the Nam Hoi Prison.

## ENGLISH CHEMIST FOR THE NAVAL COLLEGE AT WHAMPOA.

Some time ago Taotai Wei Han, Director of the Naval College in Whampoa, telegraphed to the Chinese Minister in London to engage an English chemist for the above named institution. It is reported that the chemist is expected to arrive here next week. The Chinese Government are providing temporary quarters for the chemist in the Military College in Whampoa.

## OPIUM SMOKERS ARRESTED AND FINED.

Recently the police here arrested many people in hotels, private clubs, and coolie houses for smoking opium without licenses and fines varying from 50 cents to \$10 were imposed on the offenders. The Police officers cautioned them that if they should be caught repeating the offence, the fine will be doubled. All opium apparatus seized by the police was confiscated.

## FATAL CYCLING ACCIDENT.

At the Magistracy on the 20th inst. before Mr. J. H. Kemp, sitting as coroner, and a jury composed of Messrs. R. S. Judah, H. R. B. Hancock and C. M. Meyer, an inquiry was held into the cause of death of a Chinese woman named Tsu Cheung, who was run over by a cyclist at Yaumati on October 30th, and died of a ruptured spleen.

Dr. McFarlane, medical officer in charge of the mortuary at Kowloon, deposed to making a postmortem examination of deceased on October 31st. He found the cause of death to be haemorrhage, following a ruptured spleen. Such rupture might have been caused by deceased being knocked down by a bicycle, but a fall would not necessarily have caused it. The spleen was very much enlarged.

Private W. Geyer of the Middlesex Regiment spoke to being out cycling on October 30th with Lance-Corporal Leuken. They were returning from Kowloon City when the accident happened. Witness was about ten paces behind. He heard the Lance Corporal ringing his bell, and on looking ahead he saw a Chinese woman trying to dodge him. Witness did not see Lance Corporal Leuken touch her with his bicycle, and the woman passed him muttering something in Chinese.

The Coroner—A cyclist may knock down a person and it may be a pure accident, so you need not try to shield the Lance Corporal.

Witness repeated that he did not see the Lance Corporal knock the woman down. They were travelling at the time at about six miles an hour.

The Coroner—The medical evidence showed that deceased had skin bruises on the arm and hip. It seems curious that she should get those bruises without being knocked down?

Witness—I did not see her fall.

Lance Corporal A. Leuken of the Middlesex Regiment deposed that on the 30th of October while cycling near Yaumati he saw a Chinese woman in front of him looking on the ground. He rang his bell when about 25 yards distant. He was riding in the middle of the road and the woman did not seem to realise his presence until he was on top of her. She appeared to be frightened, and did not know which way to turn. Eventually she gave a short turn to the right. Witness did not know whether the handles touched her, but she did not fall. Seeing she walked on, he took it for granted that there was nothing the matter. Witness first heard of her death on the 18th instant.

Police Sergeant Mills testified to seeing Lance Corporal Lenken in barracks, questioning him about the accident which Leuken admitted, and telling him about the woman's death.

Lukong 173 told the Court that in consequence of a report made to the Yaumati Police Station he proceeded along the Kowloon City Road, and found the dead body of a woman lying near a bridge. He had it removed to the Mortuary.

A Chinese schoolmaster residing at Station Street, Yaumati, also spoke to finding the body of deceased on the roadside.

Tung San, husband of the deceased, said his wife was paying a visit to Yaumati on October 30th.

The jury found that death was due to haemorrhage following a ruptured spleen.

## ARRIVAL OF THE BUFFS.

On Nov. 20th the troopship *Dufferin* arrived here with the 2nd Battalion of the East Kent Regiment on board. Disembarkation was proceeded with at once and before dark most of the 760 men were landed. They were accommodated at Mount Austin, Murray Barracks and in tents pitched on the parade ground. The troopship was 23 days on the voyage from Durban. The Middlesex Regiment will embark as soon as the others have left the ship and the *Dufferin* will sail for Singapore, the destination of the Middlesex, on Monday.

The officers serving with 2nd Battalion East Kent Regiment are:—Lieutenant-Colonel R. Bayard, D.S.O. (in Command); Majors C. C. Cobbe and W. A. Eaton; Captains C. D. K. Greenway, S. L. P. Barker, C. A. Worthington, Brevet-Majors H. Findlay, H. H. Baird, D.S.O. R. G. D. Groves-Raines, H. L. Archer-Houblon, F. W. Tomlinson (Depot); Lieutenants H. W. Green, E. B. Chichester, L. H. Soames, F. C. R. Studd, L. Fort, J. Crookenden, H. B. Potter (Adjutant), E. G. F. L. Gould, R. P. Wedd, J. V. R. Jackson, H. A. Thewles, and W. R. Stainforth (Quartermaster); Second Lieutenants C. E. G. Davidson, I. C. Innes, J. S. Sill, Hon. P. G. Scarlett, G. Q. Henriques, D. H. Anderson and H. D. Collinson Morley; Warrant Officers Sergeant Major A. Barton, and Bandmaster C. B. Hewitt.

Lieut. Col. Bayard served in the South African war as garrison adjutant and as station staff officer at Kroonstadt. He took part in operations in the Orange River Colony and was twice mentioned in despatches. He was rewarded with the D. S. O. and holds the medal with two clasps and the King's medal with two clasps.

An important branch of trade—that in copra—is now very hard hit in West Java in consequence of the coconut crop being only half that of last year, owing to recent stormy weather when the trees were in blossom. This failure of the crop will lead to a heavy rise in the price of copra, and holders who wait until dearth sets in may reckon upon huge profits.

## DAIRY FARM COMPANY, LIMITED.

An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders in the above Company was held on the 17th inst. at the offices of the Company. Mr. E. H. Hinds presided and there were also present Dr. Noble (director), Messrs E. A. Seth (secretary), J. M. E. Machado, E. J. Chapinan, Kwok Siu Hing and Chan Tong.

The SECRETARY having read the notice convening the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN proposed the following resolution: "That the capital of the Company be increased by the sum of \$112,500 divided into 15,000 shares of \$7.50 each and that the Directors be authorized to allot such shares *pro rata* among the existing shareholders according to the number of shares in respect of which they may, on the 27th day of October, 1908, be registered, in the proportion of three new shares for each complete lot of five shares held by them on that date, and that any of such new shares remaining over after such allotment shall be dealt with by the Directors in their discretion."

Mr. MACHADO seconded and the resolution was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN in proposing the second resolution said—The present articles of association bind us down too long a time within which we have to close our books, and as we are adding to our articles of association we thought it as well to rectify this particular article. The resolution was as follows:

"That the Articles of Association of the Company be altered by deleting paragraph 2 of Article IX and by substituting therefore the following paragraph:—

"2. The register, or registers, of shareholders and the register of transfers may be closed for such period or periods and at such time or times as the Directors may think fit, but the period or periods of such closure shall not exceed in the whole 30 days in any one year."

Mr. CHAPMAN seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—These resolutions require to be confirmed at a subsequent meeting which will be held a fortnight hence. Thank you for your attendance, gentlemen.

## EMIGRATION AGENT DUPED.

Before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on Nov. 19 an earth coolie was prosecuted by an emigration agent on charges of assault and robbery.

From the evidence it appeared that complainant approached the defendant at Yaumati and asked him if he would emigrate to Singapore. Defendant said he would, and was boarded and lodged by the complainant for three days. Then he was transferred to a boarding house in Hongkong, where he spent a day at the emigration agent's expense. After reflecting on his intended trip he decided not to go to Singapore, and informed the complainant that he had changed his mind. He had an old mother here to support, he said, and if he went abroad he might never see her again. The emigration agent then demanded that he should refund the expense to which he had been put, but the coolie informed him that he had no money. Defendant was then taken into the boarding house, soundly thrashed, and released. Happening to pass the same boarding establishment yesterday afternoon, the defendant was again pulled inside by the complainant and about four other men, and once more he was beaten. But on this occasion he turned, and picking up a piece of iron, struck the emigration agent a blow on the head, inflicting a nasty wound. The complainant then proceeded to Yaumati and reported to Inspector McHardy that the defendant had assaulted him, forced open a drawer in his house, and robbed him of \$20. Inspector McHardy accompanied the complainant to his house, and there found that the drawer mentioned was locked. On questioning the complainant, the latter gave the explanation that he had left his money on top of the chest of drawers. Another witness called by the complainant said the money fell on to the floor, and the defendant snatched it.

His Worship did not believe the story for the prosecution, and dismissed the case.



## HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Minutes of a monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce held in the Chamber Room, St. George's Building, on Thursday, the 12th November, 1908, at 4 p.m. Present:—Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett (Chairman), Messrs. A. Babington, J. W. C. Bonnar, G. Friesland, D. R. Law, E. Shellim, J. R. M. Smith, H. E. Tomkins and E. A. M. Williams (Secretary).

### MINUTES.

The minutes of the meetings held on the 13th and 25th July, and 29th October, 1908, respectively, were confirmed.

### VICE-CHAIRMANSHIP.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that Mr. D. R. Law be elected Vice-Chairman.

Upon Mr. LAW regretting his inability to act he proposed Mr. J. R. M. Smith.

The CHAIRMAN seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

### COMMITTEE.

The Committee very much regretted the untimely death of Mr. R. Brodersen. The filling of the vacancy was left over to be considered at a future date.

### COLOUR OF TIME BALL AT KOWLOON.

Further letter from Government—  
No. 4540/1908.

### Colonial Secretary's Office.

Hongkong, 17th July, 1908.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 10th instant, I am directed to inform you that as the dimensions of the Time-Ball Apparatus cannot be varied in any particular, effect can only be given to the proposal of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire by raising the height of the tower.

2. His Excellency the Governor is not prepared to make any such structural alteration in the tower at the present time and I am to point out that even if the alteration were made, it would not provide entirely against such contingencies as a junk sailing across the line of sight near a distant vessel at the critical moment.—I am, &c.

(Sgd.) F. H. MAY,  
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce.

### SEVENTH CONGRESS OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF THE EMPIRE 1909.

Letter from London Chamber:—

Oxford Court, Cannon Street,  
London, E., 26th June, 1901.

Dear Sir,—The majority of Chambers having given their vote in favour of accepting the invitation to hold the next Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire in Australia, the Congress Organising Committee in London recently confirmed this choice, and notified the Associated Chambers of Commerce of Australia accordingly.

The draft of the general programme of events has now been received by the London Chamber from the Hon. William Knox, Chairman of the Organising Committee in Australia, as follows:—

(a) The Congress will be held in Sydney about 14th September, 1909.

(b) The Federal Reception and sub-Conference will be held in Melbourne about 28th September.

It is assumed that Delegates will enter the Commonwealth at:—

(a) Brisbane in the East via Vancouver, from Great Britain and Canada.

(b) Fremantle in the West via Suez and Colombo, from Great Britain, India and the Far East.

(c) Direct from South Africa and New Zealand. In consequence, therefore, of Delegates arriving from the East and West and the possibility of their being unable to retrace their steps over our extensive territory, it is assumed that there may be only a full gathering of Delegates at Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. Therefore, Delegates entering from the East and West will be shown the resources of Queensland and Western Australia and be entertained there on their inward and homeward routes, special dates being fixed for that purpose. The visit to Tasmania is proposed to be made from Melbourne.

Without limiting the time of any Delegates, it is estimated that the arrangements for collective examination and entertainment in the various states will occupy about the periods as set out hereunder, excluding intervals for travel between States:—

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Queensland        | 6 days            |
| New South Wales   | 12 .. (Including) |
| Victoria          | 9 .. (Congress)   |
| South Australia   | 6 ..              |
| Tasmania          | 5 ..              |
| Western Australia | 6 ..              |

The Congress and general arrangements will be under the control of the Central Committee appointed by the Associated Chambers of Commerce of Australia for that purpose.

Each State will form its own Committee for arranging visits to places and objects of interest for demonstrating the industrial resources of Australia and for entertainment within each State. Special facilities will be made for visits to representative sheep stations, typical industries etc.

Assurances are received from each State that all arrangements will be most complete, and the comfort and interest of visitors will be well cared for throughout.

A full list of hotels and private apartments will be sent to all Chambers invited to the Congress and arrangements made for special rates where possible, housing arrangements being allocated to a special Committee in each State.

The Commonwealth Government and each State Government are offering every facility to Delegates, whilst the Railway Commissioners in the several States have agreed to give the Delegates a free pass over the Railways, and special rates will be arranged with the inter-Colonial steamers.

The P. & O. and Orient Companies will recommend a considerable reduction in passenger rates, but that matter requires to be settled by the Head Office in London, and negotiations are now proceeding with those Companies and with the Union Steamship Company, the Canadian Pacific Railway and Atlantic Liners for corresponding reductions. Similar negotiations will also be undertaken with the Cape Lines.

It is expected that a "Round the World" rate will be secured at £100 for the above routes either way.

The Chamber of Commerce in each Capital City will act as Agents for visitors and make arrangements as required by them and in connection therewith Ladies' Committees are to be formed to receive Ladies who accompany Delegates.

The Congress has been promised the active co-operation and assistance of all other bodies connected with the primary and manufacturing interests in the various States of the Commonwealth.

An invitation has since been received for a visit to the principal cities of New Zealand, which would mean leaving England ten days to a fortnight earlier. The Committee have not been able to decide whether such a visit is possible, but would be glad of your views.

It may be added that since receipt of the foregoing, it has been ascertained that the principal steamship lines will be prepared to arrange return tickets to Sydney, via Suez and Colombo, for £100, giving separate facilities to Delegates who may desire to return by a different route, and the "round the world" ticket will be reduced to £120.

It is, perhaps, unnecessary for me to dwell upon the importance of this Congress being made a great success, and of the delegation being as representative and influential as possible. To this end it is very desirable that the details, contained in this Circular should be laid before the Executives of all Chambers of Commerce of the Empire and communicated to Members, with a view to advising me as early as possible how many gentlemen and ladies are likely to attend from your locality. Copies may be had for this purpose on application to me. Yours faithfully,

KENRIC B. MURRAY, Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN expressed the wish that the Chamber should be represented at the 7th Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire, the Representative to be one of the Members of the Committee, if possible. The matter was left over for further consideration.

## ATTEMPTED OPIUM MONOPOLY AT CANTON.

Letter from Messrs. David Sassoon & Co., and other signatories:—

Hongkong, 23rd September, 1908.

D. R. Law, Esq.,

Chairman, Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—We beg to submit herewith copy of a letter we have to-day addressed to Mr. Harry H. Fox, H. B. M.'s Consul General, Canton, in which we have protested against the proposed action of the Provincial Authorities of the Two Kwangs, which we submit, if carried into effect, will seriously restrict and hamper the sale of Raw Opium in the Kwang Tung Province.

We shall be glad if your Chamber will do all in its power to further our protest.

We have &c.,

DAVID SASSOON & Co. Ltd.—E. Shellim,  
E. D. SASSOON & Co.,

E. PABANEY,

S. J. DAVID & Co.,

PHIROZSHA B. Petit & Co.—

p.p. S. D. Setna,

TATA SONS & Co.,—p.p. B. D. Tata,

CAWASJEE, PALANJEE & Co.,

P. F. TALATI,

H. M. E. NEMAZEE,

M. H. E. ELLIAS.

### Enclosures.

Hongkong, September 23rd, 1908.

Harry H. Fox, Esq.,

H. B. M.'s Acting Consul General, Canton.

SIR,—We have the honour to bring to your notice translations of the following documents; copies of which are enclosed:—

1. Notification dated "Kwang Sui, 34th Year, 8th Moon, 9th Day" (4th September, 1908), purporting to be issued by the Provincial Judge, the Colonial Treasurer, the President of the Re-Organization Board and Superintendent of Police of the Province of Kwong Tung.

2. Form of Licence referred to in the Notification proposed to be issued by the Two Kwong Tung Coast Defence and Reorganization Board to Native Shops authorising them to buy and sell by retail raw opium.

3. A Licence referred to in the Notification proposed to be issued by the same Board for smokers of opium authorising the purchase by the individual mentioned in the Licence for foreign and native opium from native shops.

The Notification states that the provisions contained therein will come in force and become operative on the 1st day of the 7th moon, (25th September, 1908). Under the circumstances therefore, it would appear that no time should be lost in protesting against the action of the Provincial Authorities, which, for the reasons hereafter set forth, we contend is wholly illegal and contrary to Treaty.

The Notification provides that the local Authorities shall make:—

(1) Clear investigation into the number of shops selling and prepared opium in every city, town, village and hamlet.

(2) That the local authorities shall have those shops registered.

(3) That the authorities shall then grant them licence for carrying on their business i.e., of selling raw and prepared opium.

(4) That after ascertainment and registration of the number of opium shops in the Province of the Two Kwangs, no new opium shops doing business in the buying and selling of raw and prepared opium may be established.

(5) All opium shops are to be licenced and the licence is to be renewable every year and any shop either buying or selling raw opium without having a licence is liable to be seized and shut up.

(6) Individuals who wish to purchase raw opium must procure licences and produce them to the shop to enable them to purchase the raw opium from that shop. It is incumbent on that shop to see that the purchaser has a licence enabling him to purchase the specified amount and no other quantity than that specified in the licence. The purchaser has to hand over to the opium shop one copy of the licence on purchasing and retains the other himself. Purchasers without a licence are subject to arrest and punishment.



We contend that the Government of China having by Articles 5 and 10 of the British Treaty of Nanking 1842 expressly agreed to abolish the practice named in article 5 of the Treaty, and having agreed to:—

"Permit British Merchants to carry on their Mercantile transactions with whatever persons they please"

it is gross abuse of this Treaty if the Provincial Authorities of the Two Kwangs are allowed to carry into effect the enactments contained in the Notification above referred to. It is obvious that if Clauses, 1, 2 and 3 are carried into effect, the result will be that a certain number of native establishments selling raw and prepared opium will be ascertained, registered and licensed, and this will curtail the sale of raw opium, and only the native establishments registered and licensed will be competent to purchase raw opium from the British vendor, and whether the purchase by the native shop be made direct or through an agent, the result will be the same. In effect the British Merchant will have his trade cut down to the limits of those who are permitted by the Provincial Authorities of the Two Kwangs to trade with him. Such a monopoly would prevent other dealers from participating in the Opium Trade, thus destroying healthy competition and thereby crippling business and causing heavy loss to importers who will be at the mercy of the few native shops who hold licences authorising them to purchase raw opium. Holders of licences would be able to combine to dictate purchasing prices, feeling confident of their position as monopolists in the Trade.

We submit that the scheme is illogical and is contrary to Treaty, and is illegal.

With regard to Clause 4, viz:—"that after ascertainment and registration of the number of opium shops in the Province of the Two Kwangs no new opium shops doing business in the buying and selling of raw and prepared opium may be established", the result of this clause will be that a monopoly will be created amongst a certain number of existing opium shops, which shops will, as time goes on, decrease in number by either (a) retirement from business, (b) seizure and closure by the authorities of shops for an infringement or alleged infringement of the law (c) the purchase by capitalists of the shops and of the licences.

In the course of time, therefore, the sale of raw opium will be in the hands of a few, thus creating a monopoly. In this regard we would point out that it would be obviously for a native to judge whether or not a licence was a genuine licence. If a licence presented by a purchaser is found to be false, the proprietor of the opium shop is liable to have his shop seized and shut up, and he would sustain the loss of his entire capital through no fault of his own. This would open the door to fraud inasmuch as false charges could be trumped up against opium shops in order to get them seized and closed in order to obtain the forfeiture of their capital to the Chinese Authorities. This again will ultimately result in the authorities farming the licensed shops out to those capable of paying heavy sums for them over and above the ordinary licence fees.

If these conditions are to prevail, native merchants will be chary of entering into the business, and the trade will consequently get into the hands of a few traders. We predict that in a short space of time the Provincial authorities either by closing the existing shops or by farming them out to a few, will get the whole trade into their own hands, thus creating a monopoly, which is expressly contrary to the Treaty of Nanking.

With regard to Clause 6, on each and every occasion that an individual wishes to purchase opium, this burdensome procedure has to be carried out, and on each occasion the purchaser has to pay a licence fee. This will of necessity hamper trade and prevent freedom on the buying and selling of raw opium.

We contend that all the regulations as we have in some detail painted out, form the nucleus of a monopoly which will monopolise the raw opium trade in the Province of the Two Kwangs into the hands of a few individuals, and possibly into the hands of the Provincial Government.

It would also be greatly prejudicial to the interests of the Indian Government if such a

scheme is permitted to be enforced specially in the present unsettled and unsatisfactory state of the Opium Trade owing to the action of the Chinese Government in closing up the public smoking dens, and importers, in view of the further uncertainty of demand from those who would hold a monopoly, would curtail importation, which would mean a material reduction of their purchases from the Government of India's monthly sales.

We think, therefore, that it is advisable to lay the matter before you, so that immediate steps may be taken to stop the regulations being carried into effect, and we trust that you will support us in protesting against this proposed infringement of our treaty rights.

In further support of our contention we would beg to refer you to the following:—

Article V. of the British Treaty of Nanking 1842.

The Government of China having compelled the British Merchants trading at Canton to deal exclusively with certain Chinese Merchants, called Hong Merchants (or co-Hong) who had been licensed by the Chinese Government for this purpose, the Emperor of China agrees to abolish that practice in future at all ports where British Merchants may reside, and to permit them to carry on their Mercantile transactions with whatever persons they please; and His Imperial Majesty further agrees to pay to the British Government the sum of three millions of dollars, on account of debts due to British subjects by some of the said Hong Merchants, or co-Hong, who have become insolvent, and who owe very large sums of money to subjects of Her Britannic Majesty.

Article X of the same Treaty:—

His Majesty the Emperor agrees to establish at all the ports which are by Article II of this Treaty to be thrown open for the resort of British Merchants, a fair and regular Tariff of Export and Import Customs and other dues, which Tariff shall be publicly notified and promulgated for general information; and the Emperor further engages that, when British Merchandise shall have once paid at any of the said ports the regulated customs and dues, agreeable of the tariff to be hereafter fixed, such merchants to any province or city in the interior of the Empire of China, on paying a further amount as transit duties which shall not exceed per cent. on the tariff value of such goods.

Article XIV of the French Treaty of Tientsin of 1858. "Aucune société de commerce privilégiée ne pourra désormais s'établir en Chine, et il en sera de même de toute coalition organisée dans le but d'exercer une monopole sur le commerce. En cas de contravention au présent Article, les autorités chinoises, sur les représentations du consul ou de l'agent consulaire, aviseront les moyens de dissoudre de semblables associations dont elles s'efforceront d'ailleurs de prévenir l'existence par les prohibitions préalables, afin d'écartier tout ce qui pourrait porter atteinte à la libre concurrence."

also to the correspondence entitled (An Opium Monopoly at Nanking" at page 3 of the Appendix to the Report Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, 1907.

Finally we submit that so long as the Indian Government cultivates the growth of the Poppy and sells opium, it is logical that any interference with Treaty Rights with regard to the sale of opium in China should be taken to compel China to carry out and fulfill her Treaty obligations.

We submit further, that the Chinese Government should not be allowed to make any regulations contrary to Treaty which will affect the free sale of opium from India, the growth of which, under agreement between the British and Chinese Government is to be reduced gradually over a period of years.—We have &c.

DAVID SASSOON & CO. LTD.—E. Sheellim.

E. D. SASSOON & CO.,

S. J. DAVID & CO.,

E. PABANEY,

PHIROZSHA B. PETIT & Co.—p.p. S. D.

Setna.

TATA SONS & Co.—p.p. B. D. Tata.

P. F. TALATI,

H. M. H. NEMAZEE,

M. H. E. ELLIAS,  
CAWASJEE PALANJEE & Co.,

Cable to Sir John Jordan, K.C.M.G.,—  
Chamber Commerce strongly protest  
action Kwangtung Authorities introducing  
obstructive regulations and attempting  
opium monopoly (stop) Regulations  
to come into force  
to-morrow (stop) Action calculated  
very seriously affect British  
trade and contrary Treaty  
Rights (stop) Chamber's opinion  
is no regulations should  
be permitted which will  
restrict free sale of  
opium imported in accordance  
with agreement between British  
Chinese Governments providing gradual  
reduction.

Letter from Government:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Hongkong, 3rd October, 1908.

SIR.—I am directed to inform you that His Excellency the Governor has this day received a telegram from His Majesty's Minister at Peking who states that he has made verbal representations to the Wai Wu-pu and given them a memorandum regarding the Opium Monopoly at Canton. The Wai-wu-pu have promised to telegraph instructions to the Viceroy on the subject.

2. I shall be obliged if you will be good enough to communicate the contents of this letter to Messrs. D. Sassoon & Co., and the other signatories of the letter addressed to me on this subject on the 25th ultimo.—I am, &c.,

F. H. MAY,

Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary,

Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.

Reply to Government:—

Chamber of Commerce,

Hongkong, 9th October, 08.

SIR.—I am directed to express the thanks of my Committee for your letter of the 2nd instant having reference to the Opium Monopoly at Canton, and to state that the contents thereof have been communicated to Messrs. David Sassoon & Co., as requested. I am, &c.,

E. A. M. WILLIAMS,

Secretary.

Hon. Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G.,

Colonial Secretary.

Letter to Messrs. David Sassoon & Co.:—

Chamber of Commerce,

Hongkong, 7th October, 1908.

Gentlemen:—

I have the honour to forward for the information of yourselves and co-signatories to the letter recently addressed to the Chairman of the Chamber on the subject of the recent proclamation of the Provincial Government of Kwangtung regarding the sale of opium, a copy of a letter received from the Government of Hongkong in response to the cable of protest despatched by the Chamber to Sir John Jordan. I am, &c.,

E. A. M. WILLIAMS,

Secretary.

Letter to Sir John Jordan:—

Chamber of Commerce,

Hongkong, 9th October, 1908.

SIR.—I have the honour to confirm this Chamber's cable to Your Excellency of the 14th September reading:—

"Chamber Commerce strongly protest action Kwangtung Authorities introducing obstructive regulations and attempting opium monopoly (stop) Regulations to come into force to-morrow (stop) Action calculated very seriously affect British trade and contrary Treaty rights (stop) Chamber's opinion is no regulations should be permitted which will restrict free sale of opium imported in accordance with agreement between British Chinese Governments providing gradual reduction"

I am directed to forward a copy of the letter and enclosure addressed to the Chairman of the Chamber by the Opium Merchants in Hongkong.



My Committee now learn with much satisfaction that the question has been successfully dealt with by Mr. Fox, H. B. M.'s Acting Consul-General at Canton.

I am directed to add that my Committee greatly appreciate the prompt action taken by Your Excellency in averting what would have been a great injury to British Trade interests.—I have &c.

F. A. M. WILLIAMS,  
Secretary.

#### REGISTRATION OF TRADE MARKS AND DESIGNS.

Letter from Government:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Hongkong, 9th Oct., 1908.

Sir,—I am directed to state for the information of your Committee that His Excellency the Governor has under consideration the question of amending the law of this Colony relating to the Registration of Trade Marks (Ord. No. 6 of 1898), and that in this connection a letter has been received from the China Association requesting that assurance may be given that the protection afforded to British Trade-Marks under the proposed Convention between Great Britain and Japan for the mutual protection of their trade-marks in China and Korea will extend to marks registered in Hongkong.

2. After careful examination of this subject, His Excellency concludes that it is clearly not possible for the British Government to extend protection in Japan, China and Korea to marks registered in Hongkong or in other Colonies, unless the Imperial Government itself controls such registration, i.e. unless the marks are registered in the United Kingdom. Otherwise a mark might be registered in Hongkong either by a British or Non-British Firm, which was the exact fac-simile of a mark registered in the United Kingdom; and in that case the Imperial Government would be pledged to extend protection to two identical marks against each other. This difficulty could, however, be overcome by requiring that as, in the case of letters patent, trademarks should not be registered in this Colony until they have been registered in the United Kingdom.

3. On the other hand it has been represented to His Excellency that the majority of British merchants in Hongkong deprecate the expense and delay which would be involved by prior registration in the United Kingdom; that, as their marks are not used in the United Kingdom registration there is of no use to them; and that all they desire to obtain by registration in Hongkong is the local protection of their trade-marks.

4. As His Excellency realizes that in deciding this matter the interests of the local British Merchants are entitled to his chief consideration I am to request a definite expression of opinion from your Committee as to whether British Merchants in this Colony desire by registering their marks in Hongkong merely to secure local protection or whether they desire to secure protection in China, Korea and Japan as well, and I am to add that in the latter case His Excellency is of opinion that prior registration in the United Kingdom will be indispensable as a condition precedent to registration in Hongkong.—I am, &c.,

F. H. MAY,  
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary,  
Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.

Reply to Government:—

Chamber of Commerce,

Hongkong, 23rd October, 1908.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th October (No. 2692/1908) stating for the information of my Committee that His Excellency the Governor has under consideration the question of amending the law of this Colony relating to the Registration of Trade Marks, and inviting an expression of opinion as to whether British Merchants in the Colony desire, by registering their marks in Hongkong merely to secure local protection, or whether they desire to secure protection in China, Korea and Japan as well; in which case His Excellency is of opinion that prior registration in the United Kingdom will be indispensable as a condition precedent to registration in Hongkong.

In paragraph 2 you state that His Excellency thinks it is not possible for the British Government to extend protection in China, Korea and Japan, to marks registered in Hongkong, or in other Colonies, unless the Imperial Government itself controls such legislation, i.e. unless the marks are registered in the United Kingdom.

If this view of the matter be accepted the alternatives with regard to which an opinion is invited have inevitably to be faced, but I am to point out that there is another view of the matter which affects the question. This other view is that registration does not confer a right. Rights are conferred by usage. Registration is only one of a number of safeguards to such rights. If the latter view is correct there appears to be no good reason why the British Government should not protect marks registered in Hongkong, but not in the United Kingdom, in so far as to accept that registration as evidence of a claim of prior usage.

Thus in the event of the claims of a mark registered by a British subject only in the United Kingdom conflicting with the claims of a mark registered by a British subject only in Hongkong, it would be possible for the Imperial Government to protect in China the one which could prove rights conferred by prior usage.

The effect would be to protect by local registration the marks of British subjects in China, Korea and Japan, as well as locally, but to protect the marks of other subjects only locally, which seems to meet the main difficulty. Under the impression that this view of the rights of prior usage is supported by the spirit of the English law upon the subject, and having regard to the extreme local inconvenience of compulsory registration in the United Kingdom, my Committee would recommend that it should not be made a condition precedent to registration in Hongkong in the new ordinance which His Excellency proposes to enact.

I am, &c.,  
F. A. M. WILLIAMS,  
Secretary.

Hon. Mr. T. H. May, C.M.G.,  
Colonial Secretary.

#### THE CURRENCY QUESTION

The following letter was read:

Colonial Secretary's Office,

10th November, 1908.

SIR, With reference to my letter No. 5778 1904 of the 25th August 1904, I am directed to transmit for the information of your Chamber the enclosed copy of a despatch from Sir John Jordan dated the 22nd ultimo.—I am, &c., Your obedient servant

F. H. MAY,  
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary,

Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.

British Legation,

Peking, 22nd October, 1908.

SIR, With reference to my despatch of 8th January last, I have the honour to transmit herewith to Your Excellency copies of an Imperial Decree issued on October 5th, and of the Memorial of the Government Council upon which it was based ordaining the introduction of an uniform silver currency throughout the Empire of which a coin weighing one K'u Ping or Treasury tael is to be the unit.

I have thought it might be possibly be of use to Your Excellency and the Chamber of Commerce to have an authorised translation of these documents.

I have the honour to be, &c.

J. N. JORDAN.

His Excellency Sir F. J. D. Lugard,  
K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O. Governor and  
Commander in Chief, Hongkong.

Translation.

DECREEE.

Peking Gazette,

5th October, 1908.

An Imperial Decree in response to a memorial of Prince Ching and other Ministers of the Government Council, and of Prince P'u-lun and other Members of the Senate, who, in obedience to our Commands, have deliberated upon the subject of uniform national currency.

A standard currency is the fundamental principle of public finance, and various countries have adopted a gold coin as their unit of value, with a subsidiary currency of silver and copper

tokens. Under well-framed regulations such currencies have been found convenient and profitable. But it requires years of preparation to be ready for such a measure, which can by no means be attained at one step. The finances of China are in confusion and the standardising of the currency is an urgent necessity. If actual gold coins were to be taken as the standard unit, it would be difficult to raise the necessary amount; while if gold were merely taken nominally as the standard unit, grave dangers would be incurred. It is evident therefore that we should first standardise and render uniform the silver currency, and then carefully proceed to take measures for a further advance; with a view to assuring the adoption of a gold standard in the future.

The memorialists have pointed out that the use of the tael and its fractions has been so long established that it would be difficult to substitute any other denomination in its place. The Committee of Finance in a previous memorial also recommended the determination of the tael as the silver coin to be used.

We therefore command that a larger silver coin shall be struck weighing one K'up'ing tael, and that large quantities of silver coins weighing 5 of a K'up'ing Tael shall also be minted for general convenience in use. Also there shall be small pieces of one mace and of five candareens, of less pure silver, which will serve as subsidiary currency. The two silver coins aforesaid shall be 980 fine, while the two small silver pieces will be 880 fine.

This silver currency, except in so far as calculations under Treaties and Agreements with Foreign Powers will require to be made as before, shall be uniformly used by all Yamen, great or small, in Peking or the Provinces, in all financial transactions, and all allowances for difference of weight or touch, or meltage fees, &c., shall henceforth be perpetually forbidden.

Let the Governors General and Governors of Provinces examine the conditions in their jurisdiction and devise means in conjunction with the Board of Finance for determining afresh, either by increasing or decreasing as the case may be, the allowances and rice money of territorial authorities and tax-collectors while on duty together with expenditure for travelling on the public service, and let the rates be published openly by proclamation so that the peculations of clerks may be abolished for ever.

As regards the diversity of silver currency in the various provinces, and the differences of touch, which give dishonest traders and market dealers the opportunity for demanding discounts and profits off each transaction, grievous injury is inflicted thereby on all classes, and the Board of Finance is now commanded to issue stringent regulations forbidding such practices in the future, with the view that in a given number of years the national silver currency may become completely uniform.

Until the new coinage has been minted in sufficient quantities the dollar and subsidiary silver pieces in use in the Provinces, as well as the sycee may be used as before, for the time being, on the market, and treasury payments may still be made in sycee for the present, but must year by year be diminished by the substitution of the new silver coinage. On these questions let the Board of Finance carefully consider the circumstances and take satisfactory steps for the execution of this measure.

Let this Decree be generally circulated in all parts.

#### Translation

MEMORIAL OF THE GOVERNMENT COUNCIL  
(HUI I CHENG WU CH'U) ON THE QUESTION  
OF A UNIFORM NATIONAL CURRENCY.

The Special Envoy to America, Tang Shao-Yi, having memorialised the Throne on September 22nd, praying that effect should be given to all the Articles of the Commercial Treaties, and that the question of currency should be speedily determined, the present memorialists were commanded to deliberate and report thereon without delay.

As the Throne is aware, the question of currency has been considered repeatedly by high authorities in the Capital, and investigated and reported upon by all the Provincial Authorities, Special Memoranda on the subject have also been submitted by Chang Chih-tung,



Lu Ch'uan-lin and Yuan Shih-k'ai, as well as by the board of Finance; all of which, under a Decree of April 26th, were handed over to the Government Council and the Senate for consideration. All this shows sufficiently the great care which has been bestowed by the Throne on this important question.

Now, the freedom of communication throughout the world renders this question of currency of still greater import than ever before, if we were to follow the rest of the world we should adopt a gold standard. But if the present conditions prevailing in China be our guide, we should use a silver standard. Moreover, if the principles underlying the development of currencies be examined, it will be found that between the extreme of copper and gold there must always be the intermediary stage of a silver currency; and for these reasons it is both right and suitable that China should now begin at first with a silver standard.

But although the adoption of a silver currency has been unanimously advocated, there has been by no means the same unity of opinion as to whether it should be a tael or dollar currency. The present memorialists have considered this point most profoundly, and from the reports of the Governors-General and Governors of Provinces that eleven Provinces favour the tael against eight in favour of the dollar the remainder either advocating the use of both concurrently, or proposing the introduction of a new coin of 7 mace.

T'ang Tach'en in his Memorial also favoured the tael currency; and from the point of view of national dignity it seems to us that we ought to try and stand alone, and that we cannot afford to throw away our sovereign rights in order to gratify the wishes of others; while from the point of view of the people we should follow a course suitable to the greater number, and not change a tradition of the country for the convenience of open ports or trading ports. This is, as much a fundamental principle for our guidance in making the enactment to-day, as it will be an essential factor for the future success of the measure itself; and as we have dealt with this point in previous Memorials there is no need to elaborate it further. We now propose merely to present a few of the principal arguments on both sides in the problem of adopting a dollar or a tael currency.

From the point of view of public convenience it has been said that as a large supply of dollars already exists, it would be simpler to extend their use than to adopt a tael currency. But it must be borne in mind that in every place where dollars are used it is always in combination with sycee; while in all the places where sycee is used it by no means follows that dollars are also current.

Chinese dollars were originally coined in order to oppose the invasion of the Mexican dollar, and it seems to us that if a national currency is specially established, everyone will have perfect confidence therein.

As regards the objection that the higher denomination will tend to raise the cost of living, while a small denomination will tend to economy in prices, it must not be forgotten that, besides the unit of value there must be fractional currency, and that a 5-mace piece will prove more convenient than one of 7 mace. Moreover the bulk of the people in their daily life mostly rely upon the copper currency, and if this has an unimpeded circulation there is no reason why habits of extravagance should be engendered.

It has been argued also that the value of a dollar approximates that of 1000 cash, and that with the principal and fractional coin so conveniently related calculations are simplified. But as long as the legal ratios of the currency are not fixed the market rates must constantly vary, and as nearly all the public and private transactions involve exchange between silver and cash the substitution of dollar values in place of the tael would only result in producing a complication of odd fractions.

Another argument is that in all currencies coins should be reckoned by the pieces and not by the weight. But just as Dollars can be reckoned by the pieces, so also can the taels once they are struck into coins, and while the trouble of conversions and discounts will be saved, such coins will also fulfil the condition of corresponding in weight to their inscribed denomination.

To extend our argument further afield: in all our transactions with other countries, foreign obligations have always been liquidated in terms of taels. The Native Customs revenue, also, is expressed in terms of K'u ping taels. Foreign Commerce is carried on entirely by means of exchange calculations, and the price of the pound sterling fluctuates with the state of the silver market. By using a tael currency transactions can all proceed as before, and the extended use of such a coin cannot fail to prove advantageous.

The coinage of a tael currency was recommended by the Council of Finance. In Hupei and the New Dominion a tael currency has been in use for some years. The Board of Finance also held that if a silver currency were to be adopted there could be no harm in using a tael coin.

This, then, is also our present decision; and we have further more adopted the suggestion of Tuan Fang to coin a large quantity of 5 mace pieces (half taels) to be of equal currency with the tael coins and be legal tender for any amount. Besides these 2 coins we propose that there should be 1 mace and 12 mace (5 candareens) pieces, as subsidiary currency. These coins will in the future take the place of the 10 cent and 5 cent pieces of the past, and will prevent the rise of prices or difficulties in the daily life of people, besides forming part of our preparations for a gold standard.

As regards the national dollar coined by the Board of Finance the year before last, as an experiment, the intention was to make use of this coin temporarily, as being known to the people and easy to establish. But if a uniform currency is to be sought, the standard can only be fixed after far-reaching investigation, and the present memorialists have formed the conclusion, after carefully weighing all considerations, that the long-established use of the tael and its fraction—the mace, candareen and mil—can hardly be altered or abolished.

The most suitable weight for the standard coin will be the K'u Ping tael; and as regards fineness, it will be remembered that from the minting regulations drawn up by the Council of Finance and submitted to the Throne, it appeared that a tael's weight of so-called "full touch" silver, as generally used throughout China, actually contained when melted only .98 or .99 of a tael of pure silver; and they proposed therefore that a tael and 5 mace pieces should be .98 fine and 1 and 2 mace pieces .85 fine.

The recent memorandum of the Board of Finance observes further that Chinese sycee has never actually been 100 per cent fine. Recent analysis have shown that the best does not reach .985 touch. Supposing therefore that coins of 100 per cent pure silver were struck, the use of broken silver could not well be suddenly abandoned as soon as the new coinage appeared, and this, together with the use of Mexican dollars and Chinese Provincial Dollars—which are all .6 odd in fineness while passing for .6 odd of pure silver would lead to illicit melting down of the heavier coin, as invariably happens under such circumstances. In the memoranda of Chang Chitung, Lu Chuan-lin and Yuan Shih-k'ai it was observed that in the absence of a gold currency the unit must be 100 per cent fine though the subsidiary coinage could be about .9 touch. But objections have not been wanting, to show that a pure coin would be too soft for ordinary use.

Now it will be found that the Russian gold rouble piece weighs 6.554 grammes of which only 6 grammes is pure gold. The Japanese gold yen, again, weighs 2.22 mace of which only 2 mace is pure gold. The remainder is alloy, but in use it all passes for pure gold. The same is found in all countries. Though we have not yet started a gold currency, and temporarily use silver to take its place, we must certainly follow the same plan. From recent experiments in minting we find a silver tael coin with the addition of 3 per cent. alloy makes a strong and clear ringing coin. Of course the expense of minting has to be considered and the labour and alloy, which is estimated at 3 per cent., can be paid for out of the profits accruing from the subsidiary coinage. If this is insufficient the profits from the copper currency could be drawn upon, and if that is still insufficient there remain the profits on the paper currency.

(The rest of the Memorial contains no further suggestions of importance.)

#### PROHIBITION OF IMPORTATION OF MORPHIA INTO CHINA.

The following letter was read:—

Colonial Secretary's Office

2nd November, 1908.

SIR.—I am directed to transmit for the information of the Chamber of Commerce the enclosed copy of a despatch from His Britannic Majesty's Minister at Peking with copy of the Notification issued by Sir J. N. Jordan to His Britannic Majesty's Consuls at the Treaty Ports in China.

I am, &c.,

F. H. MAY,

Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary,

The Chamber of Commerce.

COPY

Peking, 16th October, 1908.

SIR, I have the honour to transmit herewith, for Your Excellency's information, copy of a despatch which I have addressed to Sir Edward Grey on the subject of the proposal of the Chinese Government to prohibit, under Article XI of the Mackay Treaty of September 5th, 1902, the importation, except for medical purposes, of morphia into this country.

On the receipt of a Note from the Wai wu-pu informing me that the Treaty Powers had all consented to the enforcement of the prohibition I telegraphed to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs proposing to publish a warning notification to British subjects. I have now received Sir Edward Grey's approval of this procedure, and the notification, which forms enclosure 4 to my despatch is accordingly being issued through His Majesty's Consuls at the Treaty Ports.

A King's Regulation making the Chinese Decree of prohibition binding on British subjects will shortly be promulgated. I have &c.,

J. N. JORDAN.

His Excellency,

Sir F. D. Lugard, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.,  
&c. &c. &c.

Circular

British Legation.

Peking, 10th October 1908.

SIR, I enclose for your information and guidance copies of correspondence with the Waiwupu in regard to Article XI of the British Chinese Treaty of September 5th 1908, (Prohibition of the general importation of Morphia.) which it has been agreed shall be brought into operation from January 1st 1909.

You are requested to issue the Notification to British subjects which is enclosed, and to take whatever steps may be necessary to secure the proper fulfilment of the Treaty provisions pending the issue of a King's Regulation which is under consideration.—I have &c.,

J. N. JORDAN.

His Majesty's Consul.

Translation.

PRINCE CHING TO H. M. MINISTER.

Peking, 28th September, 1908.

SIR.—With reference to the question of prohibiting the importation of Morphia into China, I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that as a result of repeated representations on the part of this Board to the various Foreign Representatives in Peking, replies have now been received from each, signifying the concurrence of their respective Governments in such a measure; and whereas effect should be given to this decision as soon as possible, it is now intended to prohibit the importation at any Chinese port, of Morphia or instruments for its injection from January 1st 1909.

As regards the supply necessary for medical purposes, the following method of procedure has been elaborated:—

"Any foreign doctor wishing to import morphia must execute a bond before his Consular Authorities declaring that it is for his own use or solely for use in a specified hospital."

"Any foreign druggist wishing to import morphia must similarly execute a bond before his Consular Authority pledging himself not to retail it without a foreign doctor's prescription, and even when a



prescription is produced, that he will only sell small quantities.

The Consular Authority will thereupon transmit the bond and the exact details of the amount to be imported to the Imperial Maritime Customs, and when the Imperial Maritime Customs have issued a special permit the consignment may be landed.

"Any infringement of the terms of the bond will debar the offending party from ever obtaining permission in the future to import Morphia."

The Tariff duty to be levied on such importations will be reduced to five per cent *ad valorem*. If consignments are imported without a special permit, they will be confiscated by the Customs. Consignments already afloat previous to January 1st, 1909, will be granted a reasonable time-limit by the Imperial Maritime Customs, within which they may be imported, but such consignments will be subject to the present rate of duty and will not benefit by the reduced scale."

"Finally, whereas China agrees to prohibit the manufacture of morphia and appliances for its injection by Chinese tradespeople, the Powers also agree to prohibit the manufacture in China of morphia or appliances for its injection by any of their nationals."

The above articles represent the arrangements which were agreed upon between China and the Powers for prohibiting the morphia traffic and in communicating them to Your Excellency. I have the honour to request that they may be brought to the knowledge and attention of all British subjects.

While awaiting also the honour of a reply. I avail, &c.,

PRINCE CHING.

British Legation,  
Peking 10th October, 1908.

Your Highness.—The contents of Your Highness' Note of September 28th to the effect that, the Treaty Powers having all agreed to its conditions, Article XI of the British Chinese Treaty of September 5th 1902, on the subject of the prohibition of the importation of morphia would be brought into force from January 1st, 1909, were submitted by me to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs by telegraph, and I am now in receipt of telegraphic instructions expressing the assent of His Majesty's Government to the course proposed by the Chinese Government.

Notification in this sense will be issued at all His Majesty's Consulates in China as soon as practicable.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to your Highness the assurance of my highest consideration.

J. N. JORDAN.

His Highness  
Prince Ching  
&c. &c. &c.

#### NOTICES.

Colonial Secretary's Department.

No. 784.—The following Notification issued by H.B.M.'s Minister at Peking to H.B.M.'s Consuls at the Treaty Ports in China on the subject of the prohibition of the importation of morphia and instruments for the injection on and from the 1st January, 1909, is published for general information:

F. H. MAY.

Colonial Secretary.

2nd November, 1908.

#### NOTIFICATION.

Under instructions received from His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the undersigned hereby notifies British subjects that His Majesty's Government has agreed to the enforcement, from January 1st, 1909, of Article XI of the Treaty which was concluded between Great Britain and China at Shanghai on September 5th, 1902.

From January the 1st 1909, the importation of morphia, and instruments for its injection, into China will consequently be prohibited by the Chinese Government. Due provision will however be made for the importation into China of morphia and instruments for its injection for medicinal purposes, and all British subjects concerned are requested to ascertain without

delay from the nearest British Consulate the method of procedure to be followed in that regard.

J. N. JORDAN.

H. B. M. Minister.

British Legation, Peking.  
10th October, 1908.

#### NEW Y.M.C.A. BRANCH AT WANCHAI.

A branch of the Y.M.C.A. at 177, Wanchai Road, at its junction with Observation Place, was opened last night, by Dr. A. P. Wilder, the American Consul-General. The branch is intended for youths who reside in the east of the city and will be conducted by the youths themselves under an advisory committee of the Y.M.C.A. Two rooms comfortably furnished and a bath room have been provided. There was good attendance at the opening ceremony.

Dr. WILDER said:—We old fellows envy boys. It sometimes irritates me to meet a boy so well, so strong and especially so rich in possibilities. I have had my chance; he can do what he will with his life. He can study Chinese a couple of hours a day, and in a decade or two be one of the half dozen sinologues of the Empire. He can make a specialty of silk and in time be known in the markets of the world. He can

study law and rise to power. He can sink or medicine and nothing else for a period of years, and almost raise the dead. He may control his temper and passions, and get such mastery of himself that power seems to emanate from him, and men do what he says. A splendid thing to be a boy and to have the world before one. But, says one, not many boys do become business magnates and great surgeons and kingly men. But that's because they are not willing to pay the price. It's a long hard road to the best success and only a few are willing to tread it; most boys prefer to go with the crowd and decline the study, the waiting, the privations, the sacrifice, the neglect. But the marvel is that to you boys the door is open. The only question is whether you are willing to seek the high things, or will be content to drift. If you come from a home where the atmosphere is stimulating, where the father plans good things for you and the mother studies to make your evenings profitable, so much is in your favour. If these things are absent, you will have to work the harder. Boys are imitative, like monkeys (laughter). They do what others do. Hence the importance of having good models. Surround a boy with bad books, boasting talk, loose conversation about women, and you get a loafer and a tough young man. Interest him in wholesome things, mechanics, sports, travel, and you get earnestness and kindle ambition. A boy becomes like his model. If he envies the dissipated man, if that is his ideal of success—the boy will grow in time to act and think like him; even to look like him. We all get what we want in this world. If his ideal is to be strong and alert and to have a hand in the good things of life, he will come to this. The Y.M.C.A. work is designed to give boys a chance in Hongkong to spend their evenings profitably and to know what is going on in the world that is worth while. But we cannot do more than provide the place and some good company; the rest is up to you. Boyhood stands at the cross-roads. Adsett's, who was hanged last year, started as a good boy. The letters from his mother and sister show that he was a most affectionate and devoted son. It required only a half dozen years of reckless living to change this good son into a brutal murderer. With his strong athletic body and strong will—and he had these—the man who was hanged might have been a leader among men; he might have healed the sick, or been a helpful influence to a whole city; or led great numbers of weaker men to the best things. But he threw off the bridle; he thought the laws of nature and God could be trifled with and proved once again that "The wages of sin is death." This work means that Hongkong grown-ups are interested in you boys of Wanchai. We want you to be good in your games; to be dutiful in school; loyal to your King, ambitious to make Hongkong a better, nobler city; and determined to make the most of yourselves. Don't be content with small things—aim to lead. If your parents are poor, aim to surround them in their

old age with comfort. If they had little schooling, find a night school and determine to have at least one educated in the family. If you knew the story of the heads of these Hongkong business firms, you would be surprised how many of them came through the valley of hard work and poverty and discouragement, such as beset some of you. They persevered. Many others let go, and drifted and preferred a good time now to success in the future. Youth is a glad fine thing, but there is something serious about it, for you boys are dealing with destiny.

On the call of Mr. Ricketts, Dr. Wilder was thanked for his address.

#### HONGKONG CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Corinthian Yacht Club was held at the Club House, Wanchai, last evening. Mr. E. M. Hazeland presided, and among others present were Messrs. L. Guy (secretary), A. Denison, M. McIver, J. McKay, A. Jenkins, F. Lenpesty, J. Forbes, H. Coombs, J. Spittles, P. R. Adams, J. H. Taggart, A. Course, Nilsson, W. G. Puddeph, I. Dove, C. J. Cooke, J. Summers, C. W. Kew, A. O. Brawn, J. Crack, W. J. Stabbing, J. Saunders and Captain Milroy.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that owing to the indisposition of the Treasurer they were unable to get the accounts audited for this meeting, but would probably have a meeting within the next week or so to go into them. The Club had had a most prosperous year, and there was every prospect that they would have a better one in the coming year as a lot of new boats were being built. With regard to Dr. Hayward Hays' competition, he regretted to say that the boats for this were not yet built, but if Mr. King "bucked-up" they would all be sailing before Christmas. The typhoon did considerable damage to Club property, but the Club house did not suffer greatly. The Club had now a membership of over 250, and members ought to congratulate themselves in having a fleet of 42 yachts and motorboats (applause). The Club was a young one, but had done very well up to the present. The rowing section, started at the beginning of the year, did very well at the Hongkong Regatta. It was, however, rather an expensive item, as a flat had to be rented in which to store these boats. Regarding accommodation the Club had written to the Government asking for a piece of land to the east of the Club house. They had not received a reply yet, and if the application was not favourably considered they would probably have to use part of their garden. The Water Polo team did very well in the competition, winning the shield. They deserved to be congratulated (applause). At the end of the financial year the Club had \$1500 at its credit in the bank. That was before the yearly subscriptions came in, so it would be seen they were in a fairly good financial condition (applause).

The election of officers was then proceeded with, and resulted as follows:—Commodore, D. F. Clark; Vice-Commodore, Mr. E. M. Hazeland; Secretary, Mr. L. Guy; Treasurer, Mr. J. Summers, acting until the return to the Colony of Mr. A. McKirdy; official Treasurer, Mr. J. Craik; Deputy treasurers, G. G. Wood and G. J. Cooke; Committee, Messrs. A. Denison, J. McCorquodale, J. Saunders and M. McIver.

A vote of thanks to Messrs. Dove and Moon for the work they had done in connection with the new one-design boats was carried by acclamation.

Mr. CRAIK thought that each section of the Club should be represented by a member on the general committee. The matter will be considered at a special meeting to be convened later.

This was all the business.

St. John's Lodge of Freemasons (Scottish Constitution) have elected office-bearers as follows: B. W. M., Bro. Sim; Senior Warden, Bro. Course; Junior Warden, Bro. Robertson; treasurer, Bro. A. Ritchie; secretary, Bro. Boanas; senior deacon, Bro. Glendenning; Junior deacon, Bro. Devney; Inner guard, Bro. Haggart; stewards Bros. G. Watt and S. Kelly; tyler, Bro. Vanstone.



## INTERESTING TO TRADERS.

DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN TREATY  
PORTS AND HONGKONG.

On Nov 18 the Chief Justice in the course of his judgment in the action in which Messrs Reuter, Brockelmann and Co. were defendants made some observations which are of vital interest to China traders. He said:—

A certain sugar firm, the Cheong Loong, composed of two partners Woo Yiu Nam and Leung Tsiu Pan, were in business in Hongkong and had dealings with Messrs. Reuter, Brockelmann, the defendant's branch house in the Colony. At the time immediately preceding the occurrences which led to this suit, the Cheong Loong had contracted to purchase sugar to the extent of about \$50,000, in three contracts. Delivery had been taken of a certain amount of the sugar, and \$5,000 had been paid on account, but a considerable quantity, 4,000 bags, had not been taken, and consequently remained in godown. On the construction of the contracts, I have no doubt that the property in this sugar had not passed to the Cheong Loong, but remained with Reuter, Brockelmann and Co.; that their right was to sell the sugar speedily and obtain the best price they could, and to prove in the bankruptcy of the firm for the difference—when on they would have received the small dividend of 3.40 per cent. I have no doubt further, all the parties to the transaction being within the jurisdiction of this Court, and the transaction itself having been concluded in Hongkong, that Messrs. Reuter, Brockelmann and Co. were subject to the jurisdiction of this Court in the matter of this bankruptcy. This aspect of the case was not very much referred to in argument, but it is sufficiently material for me to deal with it. All persons in the Colony, British subjects or aliens, who are creditors of a bankrupt who is before the Court in bankruptcy, are subject to the jurisdiction of the Court. There is no doubt that if assets belonging to the bankrupt are discovered in another country and a creditor endeavours to obtain them for his own benefit, the Court has some jurisdiction to control his action, and this, if he is within the jurisdiction, whether he has proved in the bankruptcy or not. It is not necessary to define with precision to what extent that jurisdiction goes; it is sufficient to note that it exists, also that the discovery of a partner in another country whose property could be brought into the bankrupt estate for the benefit of the creditors comes within the meaning of assets as above referred to. Further that if Reuter, Brockelmann and Co's application to the German Consul for assistance in recovering such assets in Canton came within the terms of the jurisdiction clause of the Treaties of Tientsin, so also would an application by the Trustee in bankruptcy to the British Consul for similar assistance be within those clauses. And for myself I have no doubt whatever that what Messrs. Reuter, Brockelmann and Co. did in the instance was an attempt to *passer outre* the Trustee in the Cheong Loong Bankruptcy. They did not prove in that bankruptcy, but endeavoured to obtain a payment of the whole sum due to them by application to the German Consul; and I have no doubt that, at least during the pendency of the bankruptcy proceedings before this Court, this was in violation of the bankruptcy laws of this Colony, under the protection of which they carry on their business in this Colony. Action of this sort is most prejudicial to the other traders, of all nationalities as well as British, in Hongkong, and must therefore be also highly prejudicial to the great international trade of the Colony. It is one of those "rose ends" which result from the consular jurisdiction treaties with China, and which it would be for the benefit of all concerned in the commercial welfare of this Colony, to get rid of by putting the whole matter on a more satisfactory and equitable basis. I am bound to allude to this matter, because I think it is of the utmost importance that the innumerable foreign firms who trade in this Colony should realise it. That large measure of freedom of trade and access to our Courts which has been accorded to "merchant strangers repairing into the realm of England," not to be described as the "open door,"

for since Magna Charta and the 14th year of Richard II. there has never been a door to close, carries with it implicit obedience to our laws which, I believe, are framed in the best interests of this free commerce. It is just this which makes the difference between trading in a British Colony and trading in a Treaty Port. I think it right to add to what I have said that the error into which Messrs. Reuter, Brockelmann and Co. fell, and which was the origin of all this litigation, was perhaps due to the fact that the firm trades in so many Treaty Ports in the East as well as in Hongkong, that this essential distinction between Hongkong and the rest of the East had somewhat escaped them.

## THE PEAK MURDER

The three natives charged with murdering a compatriot at the Peak on October 22nd were again before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on Nov. 17. The first and second defendant, were represented by Mr. R. D. Atkinson (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon).

Lai Tso was the next witness for the prosecution. He spoke of going to the Peak on October 22nd to look for a clansman. As he did not arrive at the meeting place arranged—the top tram station—at the appointed hour, witness went on towards the Peak Church. On the road below he saw six or seven men fighting with daggers. One of the men was knocked down, and another man put a knife in the chest with a bamboo pole. The fallen man called out "save life," and the others ran away. Witness did not see the fight start, but he heard some of the combatants calling out, "strike, strike." After the fight about six men ran towards the tram station. As he could not find his clansman, witness also went back to the tram station, but did not again see the six men who had been engaged in the fight. Witness recognised the third defendant as one of the men who took part in the fight. He was the man who poked deceased in the chest. Witness was four cheung away, but could, nevertheless, recognise the third defendant. The first defendant was not in the vicinity where the fight occurred; neither was the second. Witness did not know any of the defendants; neither did he meet any of the fighters on his way back to the station. Witness identified the third defendant among a number of other natives at the Central Police Station.

After evidence of arrest was taken the hearing was again adjourned.

## PAPAL JUBILEE

On Nov. 10 was the fiftieth anniversary of the priesthood of His Holiness the Pope, and the occasion was honoured by Catholics in Hongkong with becoming celebrations. These took place principally at the Roman Catholic Cathedral. High Pontifical mass was celebrated in the morning, the officiating prelate being His Lordship the right reverend Bishop D. Pozzoni, assisted by the Very Rev. Fr. Robert, Procurator of the Mission Etrangere, the Rev. Frs. Agostini, Spada and Leong as Deacons, and the Rev. Fr. Lu as sub-deacon. At 5.30 p.m. the hymn "Tu es Petrus" was sung, after which Bishop Pozzoni delivered a short sermon in English, in which he sketched the sacerdotal and pontifical life of the Pope, dwelt on his virtues, and dealt with the question of apostolic succession. This was followed by an exposition of the Holy Sacrament, Te Deum and Benediction. The choir sang selected hymns in conclusion.

At night the front of the Cathedral was beautifully illuminated with lanterns and electric bulbs. The most prominent design was the papal crest, the crown and keys, beneath which stood a representation of His Holiness flanked by huge Chinese characters. The compound also presented a very animated appearance, large crowds attending the fancy fete. Above the main door was an illuminated photograph of His Holiness in his robes. The land of the Rajputs enhanced the pleasure of the evening.

Japan papers report the death of Professor Edwin Emerson, formerly of Tokyo and latterly of Yokohama. He caught a chill during the visit of the American Fleet, and this developed into pneumoma from which death resulted.

## LAWLESSNESS IN KWANGTUNG.

BRIGANDAGE RAMPANT—DETERMINED  
ACTION BY THE VICEROY.

H. E. the Viceroy of the Two Kwang has issued the following Notification, copies of which have been sent to all the high Civil and Military Officials in the Province of Kwangtung:—

"This year many prefectures and districts in the Kwangtung Province have been afflicted with calamities. Bad harvests have been experienced and floods have prevented the cultivation of land. Consequently the people have had difficulty in earning a livelihood. You are all aware that I have directed the different Bureaux to do their utmost to raise funds to alleviate the sufferings of the people and so prevent lawlessness and chaos in the afflicted districts. But I regret to learn that recently there has been so marked a recrudescence of piracy and robbery that stern and prompt measures to suppress it are imperatively necessary, especially now that the winter season has set in when lawless conduct is usually rife. The civil and military officials and the police officers of all the different districts whose duties are to search for and arrest pirates and robbers should act energetically and to their utmost to stamp out brigandage and plunder, and restore peace and order in the respective districts.

It has recently come to my knowledge that there has been a recrudescence of piracy and brigandage in the city of Canton and its vicinity, at Yew Tau village and several other villages bordering on the Great North Gate of Canton City where robbers have kidnapped people and members of Triad Societies have forcibly taken possession of public properties. During robberies have been committed in broad daylight in Kong-nga-lee, one of most prominent thoroughfares in the Western suburbs of the Canton City. Brigands kidnapped the late Sin Ting Ping, a leading representative of the gentry in the village Wong-ting in the Nam Hoi district, and the officials have failed to capture the robber, or even to obtain the release of the captive alive. If such daring crimes can be perpetrated in the metropolis of the Kwangtung Province one can imagine what must be going on in the other prefectures. If pirates and robbers have the audacity to kidnap wealthy gentry and plunder their residences, it can readily be surmised what the merchants and the common people must have suffered at the hands of the robbers and pirates. Unless strict instructions are given to the high Civil and Military Officials to institute strict searches, for the brigands and adopt stringent measures to protect the people, there can be no security for life and property from plunder and brigandage.

This Notification is issued expressly to inform and warn the Civil and Military Officials that in future they must instruct the soldiers to co-operate with the volunteers of the different districts in taking adequate measures to capture robbers and afford the people proper protection. When any notorious pirates or robbers manage to escape capture in any of the districts, the officials should immediately issue large rewards with a view to securing their arrest. They must engage informers and pay them liberally to trace the brigands and have them captured. As soon as the officials receive information of the whereabouts of pirates and robbers they must personally lead the soldiers in pursuit and they must not so neglect their duty as to allow them to escape. Officials will be punished and rewarded according to their merits during their tenure of office. I desire to make it clear to you that any official who captures a notorious brigand or apprehends robbers and thieves, no matter whether the official be civil or military, he will be handsomely rewarded. Officials whose districts are kept in peace will likewise be rewarded. On the other hand, officials whose districts are disturbed by robberies and piracies will be singled out for punishment without mercy.

I have at heart the peace of the Empire and therefore hold the Military and Civil Officials responsible for the maintenance of peace. High officials should see that their subordinates carry out their duty and report to me all cases of lawlessness and I will have the officials punished. On receipt of this Notification all officials must pay heed to it and carry out the instructions."



## IMPORTANT CASE UNDER THE LIQUOR ORDINANCE.

### MANAGER OF R.E. CANTEN SUMMONED.

An interesting case came on for hearing before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on Nov. 18 when A. M. Thornhill, manager of the Royal Engineers Canteen, was summoned for retailing liquor without a licence.

Detective-Sergeant Appleton prosecuted, and Mr. Otto Kong Sing appeared for the defendant.

Detective-Sergeant Appleton deposed to giving a Chinese boy a chit and a \$5 bill on the evening of the 11th instant. The chit bore the assumed name of "J. Long," and was handed to the boy at the Central Police Station. Witness then went with the boy to Wellington Barracks and told him to get one bottle of port wine and one bottle of whisky. He saw the boy enter the barracks gate and go towards the Canteen. After an absence of about five minutes he returned with the bottles of port wine and whisky produced, and returned \$2.90 change.

Cross-examined, witness said he made the duplicate chit at the Police Station before proceeding to Wellington Barracks. He did not know what the Army regulations were with regard to "boys" entering Wellington Barracks. Witness did not see the boy come out of the Canteen at the Barracks and go back again. He did not know whether the contractor was permitted to sell liquor to soldiers and to soldiers' families. He proceeded in the same way as he would have done in connection with unlicensed premises.

A Chinese cook employed at the Central Station stated that he took the chit into Wellington Barracks to buy some spirits. A servant boy asked where he came from, and he replied Sanwafong. The boy then asked the name of his master, and he said he did not know. The defendant was not present.

Cross-examined, witness said he did not tell the sentry who stopped him at the Barracks gate that he was a soldier's boy.

Didn't the bar boy refuse to sell you liquor until you produced a chit from your master?—No.

His Worship (to Sergeant Appleton)—How are you going to connect the defendant with this?

Sergeant Appleton—By bringing a military officer up here to prove that he is the tenant of the canteen.

Mr. Kong Sing—That does not prove that he sold the liquor.

His Worship (to the Sergeant)—We want some proof that this man was connected with the sale.

Sergeant Appleton—I think I can get proof from the police.

His Worship—If you can get some of the police to say that they have been there and have seen him selling liquor, that will be sufficient.

Mr. Kong Sing—To save time I will admit that the defendant is the tenant. Your Worship will notice that this is a very different prosecution to the ordinary ones which come before the Court. In the ordinary way it is perfectly clear that people selling liquor without a licence are evading the law, but this is quite a different matter. I am not astonished at Sergeant Appleton bringing this prosecution, because he is ignorant of the way in which this canteen is conducted. This canteen is provided for by, and conducted under, Army regulations.

His Worship—I don't know anything about that.

Mr. Kong Sing—The King's regulations and orders provide that a regimental institute will be established in every unit to supply troops with the best articles at the lowest prices. In the section from which I quote, rules for the management of the garrison are issued, and under the English Licensing Act of 1902 it is not necessary for a person holding a Canteen licence under the authority of the Secretary of State to obtain a justices' licence or a certificate to enable him to obtain or hold any excise licence for the sale of intoxicating liquors. The defendant's licence is under contract with the Army, and is modified and qualified in this way: only officers, soldiers, and their families and servants are permitted to purchase articles. Civilians are not allowed to

purchase in any of the establishments. Under these rules it is impossible for a Chinese servant to enter the Barracks without a pass.

His Worship—Under the home Act a canteen is not required to take out a licence, but it is under the local Ordinance.

Mr. Kong Sing—I submit not. If we are, then no canteen in the Colony is *bona fide*.

His Worship—It seems to me, so far as the Ordinance is concerned, that any sale on unlicensed premises is contrary to the Ordinance.

Mr. Kong Sing—These are not unlicensed premises.

His Worship—What licence do you hold?

Mr. Kong Sing—We hold a licence under the King's regulations, and that overrules all local ordinances.

His Worship—These orders apply to England.

Mr. Kong Sing—And here as well. You cannot arrest a man in barracks or on board a man-of-war.

His Worship—Do you mean to say that if a theft was committed on army premises the police could not make an arrest?

Mr. Kong Sing—I am speaking of misdemeanours. It is to the public safety that criminals, whether soldiers or otherwise, should be subject to the law, but this case does not amount to a crime. If it is an offence, it is not an offence against the Ordinance. I submit it is a misconceived prosecution. If your Worship is against me, then all the canteens in the Colony are illegal.

His Worship—Certainly, and they depend then on Government sufferance. If this prosecution goes ahead, and my view of the Ordinance is correct, then the question of sale whether to soldiers or civilians is irrelevant?

Mr. Kong Sing—Yes.

His Worship—It is quite possible that the defendant may have some permission from the local Government to sell to soldiers, and he may be able to produce that permission.

Mr. Kong Sing—I submit that if I produce a contract between the defendant and the Army Authorities permitting the sale of spirits, my point is made.

His Worship—You will have to prove that the Military Authorities were within their rights in giving that permission. I take it you have two lines of defence: That you have the right under the home Act to sell to anybody—

Mr. Kong Sing—I don't say that at all. We have the right to sell to soldiers or soldiers' servants without a licence; and my other defence is that this was a sale to a soldier in the ordinary way.

A. M. Thornhill said he was tenant of the Royal Engineers Canteen and manager of the Soldiers' Club. He held a contract with the army officials under the King's regulations and orders, and under that contract he was permitted to sell to soldiers and soldiers' servants. Witness had boys to sell for him, and was not present when this sale took place. He had given strict instruction to the boys that they were on no account to sell to civilians. If Chinese servants produced chits from their masters they could be sold anything over the bar. The rules were that sentries were not to pass Chinese boys into barracks unless they were in receipt of a pass signed by the adjutant. Quite recently a number of military drafts and families arrived in the Colony by the *Soudan*, and it was possible that the Canteen boys did not know all the soldiers' boys in the Colony. Within the knowledge of witness no sales had been made from the Canteen to others than soldiers or sailors. He paid the boys' wages and the rent, and the remaining profit was his.

Mr. Kong Sing—It's a sort of private concern within territorial limits.

Sergeant Appleton—How much do you charge for a bottle of port wine?

Mr. Kong Sing—You ought to know.

Witness—About 30 cents.

Sergeant Appleton—Isn't it an easy matter for a Chinese who does not speak English to get into barracks?

Witness—I don't know whether he would get in, or whether he would get kicked out?

At this stage the hearing was adjourned until Tuesday.

The Dalai Lama had decided to leave Peking for Tibet on the 23rd inst.

## SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 16th November.

### IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. H. H. J. GOMPERTZ  
(ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

#### THE EFFECT OF A SIGNATURE.

The action brought by Leung Hing, trading as Kwang Tack, against Leung Sing for \$1,107.95 for money lent or in the alternative goods supplied and moneys paid by the plaintiff was continued, the plaintiff having waived the sum of \$107.95 in order to bring his claim within the jurisdiction of the Summary Court. Mr. S. d'Almada, from the office of Messrs. Goldring, Barlow, and Morrell, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Otto Kong Sing appeared for the defendant.

The subject of the action was the expenditure involved in constructing a wharf at Kowloon, plaintiff asserting that he had supplied the money to procure the necessary material and producing promissory notes signed by the defendant.

The defendant alleged that he was only a foreman engaged by the plaintiff and denied having signed the notes.

His Honour asked defendant to write his signature which his Honour considered was identical with the signature on the promissory notes, and gave judgment for the plaintiff.

Wednesday, 18th November.

### IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR F. PIGGOTT).

#### MAIDEN SESSION.

When the November session was opened the Attorney-General (Hon. Mr. Rees Davis, K.C.) said—I am glad to inform your Lordship that no indictment has been filed for the present session and there is no case for trial.

The Court was adjourned *sine die*.

### IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

#### BEFORE THE FULL COURT.

#### LANDLORD AND TENANT.

Judgment was given by the Chief Justice and the Puisne Judge in the appeal at the instance of the Humphreys Estate and Finance Company against the decision of the Puisne Judge in the action by Mr. P. W. Goldring for the recovery from appellants of \$500 as damages for breach of a tenancy agreement. Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., instructed by Mr. P. M. Hodgson, of Messrs. Ewens and Harston, appeared for the appellants and Mr. Goldring appeared in person assisted by Mr. E. J. Grist.

The Chief Justice in delivering judgment said—

In this case the plaintiff was tenant for one year of a flat on the second floor of a house in Robinson Road, Kowloon, and he sued the landlord for damages to his property caused by water coming into the flat. I take the following facts from the judgment of the learned Puisne Judge. Some of them are challenged by the notice of motion in so far as they are inferences; but we are of opinion that these inferences are sound:

On 23th July the Colony was visited by a severe typhoon, causing considerable damage to buildings. After this storm the plaintiff noticed dampness in the ceiling of the verandah but this passed off and there was no leakage. The plaintiff apparently thought no more about it and did not inform the defendant company of what he had seen. On the 20th August it rained heavily all day and next morning plaintiff found water pouring in through his roof and verandah wall, causing considerable damage to his personal effects. He now claims \$500 as loss suffered by him in consequence of the breach by defendant company of their agreement to keep the premises in proper repair. No structural defect is alleged and it appears that the damage was caused by water which had accumulated in large quantity on the roof owing to the gutter pipes becoming blocked. They were found to be choked with rubbish and grass, leaves of



trees, and "black matter," and also with plaster from the wall. The pipes were apparently cleared without difficulty by the plaintiff's coolie who was sent up on the roof, and the accumulated water thereupon escaped. The agreement contained the following clause: 3. "The landlords shall keep the roof and all exterior walls of the said premises in a proper tenable state of repair and amendment at their own costs." The plaintiff sued for breach of this agreement and recovered \$500 damages. The defendant is now appealing from the judgment of the learned Puisne Judge. The appellants rely on the fundamental principle of law laid down by the majority of the Court of Exchequer in *Makin v. Watkinson* and since adopted by all courts that on a covenant such as this the lessor cannot be sued for non-repair, or for damages resulting from non-repair, unless he has received notice of want of repair. It is to be noted at once that there is a difference in the facts of this case and that—for here the letting was of a flat and not of a whole building, and it was argued that this is sufficient to take the present case out of the principle. We must therefore see what are the reasons on which this principle is based. As a matter of fact it works out not as a principle of law but as a very simple little bit of common sense. Baron Bramwell and Channell admitted that the dictum of Chief Justice Mansfield and Justice Gibbs in *Moore v. Clark* was *obiter*, but they gave judgment in precisely the same sense. "The lessor may charge the lessee without notice; for the lessor is not on the spot to see the repairs wanting; the lessee is, and, therefore, the lessee cannot charge the lessor for breach of repairs without notice, for the lessor may not know that repairs are necessary." There was some discussion as to whether the necessary words to give effect to this idea could be incorporated into the covenant; but it was held that on the assumption that the contracting parties were reasonable men, and intended what was reasonable, it might be done: and the test of reasonableness was this fact—the lessor may not know that repairs are necessary. I confess that I prefer the words of the old dictum to those given by Baron Bramwell that the lessor has no means of ascertaining the condition of the premises; because this assumes that "if the lessor comes to repair when no repair is needed he will be a trespasser"; and that if he came for the purpose of looking into the state of the premises, the lessee could prevent him because that would not be a lawful cause of entry. I should have thought that a reasonable entry for the purpose of fulfilling a covenant in the lease would have been justified from the necessity of fulfilling the covenant. It might have to be by request, but if the lessee declined he certainly could not recover. But although these criticisms of some part of the reasoning on which *Makin v. Watkinson* is based are necessary, it is quite clear that the idea involved in the decision is that where the lessor has parted with the control of the premises he cannot be presumed to keep so watchful an eye over them as the lessee, and, therefore, the duty of surveillance is thrown upon the lessee in so far as this covenant is concerned, and he must give the lessor notice when occasion arises for repairing under the covenant. The Court of Appeal in *Huggal v. McLean* definitely established the rule and severed it from the reason. The drains in a house were in a defective condition, the tenant had not the means of knowing their condition, but the landlord had; yet this was held not sufficient to relieve the tenant from this implied condition of giving notice. If therefore the circumstances are identical, we must not look at the reason but only at the rule, but if they are not identical then we can only apply the rule if the reason is applicable to the new circumstances. Two other cases cited, *Broggi v. Robbins* and *Tredway v. Maclin* do not carry the law any further. The material inquiry in this case is therefore, what is included in the lease of a flat? Does it include the roof? I cannot accept the reasoning of Justice Byrne in *Café Co. v. Muse* where he arrived at the conclusion that the lease of rooms on a floor is a lease of a separate dwelling and includes the outer wall so far as it is solely appropriate to the rooms let, because the dispute arose not between the lessor and lessee, but between two lessees. It is obvious that one lessee could

not deny the right of another lessee to use the exterior walls of one flat which he himself was claiming with regard to the other, and that he was interfering with. But that is a very different thing from saying that the lease of the floor or flat included the use of the outer wall, thereby making the lessor a trespasser if he used it. This case must therefore be put on one side. The only case bearing on the question that is involved in a lease of a flat is *Hargroves v. Hartop*. There, however, had been notice by the lessee that a gutter in the roof had become stopped up and that rain water was coming through the roof; and that action was brought for negligence in allowing the repairs to stand over for five days. Moreover there was no covenant to repair, and the plaintiff succeeded on the covenant for quiet enjoyment. The judgment refers to the fact found by the County Court judge that "the roof was not demised to the plaintiff, but was retained in the possession and under the control of the defendants, and there was no evidence that the plaintiffs or any of the tenants had any right of access to the roof or any privilege to go up on it, or that they had in fact ever repaired it or cleaned out the gutter." I agree that this is not a finding which we are bound by, because it was suggested that there might have been an express reservation of the control of the roof by the lessor. The suggestion is not borne out by the reports of the case all of which state expressly that there was no such reservation. Therefore this Court is called upon to decide what is included in the lease of a flat. We are clearly of opinion that it is a lease of the interior only; that it gives no right to the lessee as against the landlord to use, except by legal necessity, either the outside walls, or the roof, or anything appurtenant thereto. As to the roof it is too clear, for otherwise the lessee might erect an advertisement or sky sign on the roof, and the lessor might, or might not, use it in any other lawful way. Further there gutt and pipes are clearly appurtenant to the roof. This is made all the clearer by the fact that there were two flats, one on each floor, under the same roof, and what is true of one lessee must also be true of all four lessees. Therefore as there was no demise of that part of the premises which were out of repair, the doctrine of notice cannot apply, for the simple reason that the lessor can go on the roof to inspect, and the lessee cannot. He would certainly in law be as much a trespasser as the lessor in the case put by Baron Bramwell in *Makin v. Watkinson*. The reason for the rule as to notice fails, for the lessor "may know that repairs are necessary." That a cause of action therefore occurred in the circumstances, we have no doubt on another familiar principle which deals with accumulations of water on your property which amount to a non-natural use of it. But the action was not brought in this way, but for breach of the covenant to repair, and we must see if this will lie. It seems to me that *Hargroves v. Hartop* carries the case the whole way. The roof and the gutter were not demised: independently of covenant a duty arises to inspect the gutters and keep them in such a proper state of repair as to prevent water accumulating on the roof in consequence of non-repair: it is an *a fortiori* if there is a covenant; and it is clear that the notice was only referred to in order to aggravate the breach of duty, for the judgment refers to the defendants as "never having inspected the gutters, and delayed repairs even after receipt of the notice." But putting this on one side, the case against the soundness of the decision of the Puisne Judge is put as strongly as it can be put in the notice of motion, in paragraphs (3) and (4): "The pipes and gutters on the roof are part and parcel of the flat let to the plaintiff." We are of opinion that they are appurtenant to the roof, and were therefore not let to the plaintiff. "The covenant only extends to structural defects of the roof and walls and not to choked drain pipes." We do not agree as to the limitation to structural defects; and we are of opinion that a choked drain pipe, both literally and legally is in need of repair: if it is not big enough it is a structural defect: just as much as if the wall were not strong enough to support the roof: it would be if it was big enough but it will not serve the purpose for which it was intended if it is in

need of repair. Therefore the covenant does cover this case. And the practical result of our decision is the common sense one that if landlords demise rooms, or flats, or floors, covered by a roof, it is their duty to see that all parts of that roof, with its appurtenances, are in good and working order, without any correlative duty being thrown on the tenant to warn them or give them notice of their being out of repair. The landlord's duty arises out of their relationship to the tenant if there is no covenant, it arises out of the covenant if there is one.

The Puisne Judge concurred with the judgment of the Chief Justice. He thought that the appeal should be dismissed with costs. Proceeding, he said that once it was established that the doctrine of notice being necessary only applied where there was a demise of actual premises where the want of repairs is alleged and the court had held that in the present case the roof and its appurtenances were not demised—then the question of negligence arose. The defendant company were certainly not insurers and therefore their duty was to use all reasonable care and skill to keep in proper repair. In the present case he found that less than reasonable care had been exercised and that was the ground on which he found them liable.

Mr. Goldring formally moved for judgment.

Sir Henry Berkeley referring to the question of costs remarked that the respondent appeared in person and had the assistance of Mr. Grist. He submitted that no costs should be given. Costs did not include the attendance of a solicitor.

The Chief Justice—I think the Registrar must deal with that.

Sir Henry Berkeley—Mr. Goldring cannot appear here instructed by a solicitor.

Mr. Goldring—My lord, the cases are quite clear on the point. I think it is a matter for the Registrar.

The Chief Justice—Just so.

#### LENGTHY LITIGATION.

The Full Court gave judgments on the motions moved by the parties in the action in which Leung Lai Nam and others proceeded against Reuter Brockelmann and Company for damages for alleged illegal seizure of property in China. Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., and Sir Henry Berkeley K.C. appeared for Messrs Reuter, Brockelmann and Company.

The first notice of motion was by the plaintiffs who asked that the verdict of the jury on certain questions be set aside on the ground that the judgment was contrary to the evidence.

The Chief Justice, in a lengthy judgment, thought that the answers to the questions were not such as reasonable men ought to have given and he was of opinion that the verdict on those points should be set aside.

The Puisne Judge was of the opinion that on all the questions, except the second relating to the partnership, the verdict of the jury should stand and that the motion should be dismissed with costs.

The second notice of motion was by the defendants who asked for judgment on the various grounds set forth.

The Chief Justice, in the course of another lengthy judgment, said he could not imagine anything more oppressive than for persons, whether they had a good case or not, setting their consul in motion and through them the Chinese authorities to get property seized and when asked about it calmly fold their arms and tell the plaintiffs to find out for themselves. The law is a just one: it is primitive in its simplicity: you defendants say you have a right to seize or the Chinese authorities have a right to seize on your behalf. Produce your warrant and let us see whether they have acted rightly or not. It might be that on the production of the warrant the case will collapse, but until you do so we cannot tell. His Lordship held that the verdict of the jury must stand.

The Puisne Judge held that the verdict of the jury should be set aside and judgment entered for the defendants with costs of the proceeding here and in the court below.

Mr. Pollock said his side would take the matter further and asked for a stay of execution unless plaintiffs would give an undertaking to refund costs.

The order was made by consent.



Thursday, 19th November.

IN BANKRUPTCY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR F. PIGGOTT).

## A QUESTION OF JURISDICTION.

Re Chan Yu Shan. Mr. Hastings appeared for the petitioning creditor and Mr. Otto Kong Sing appeared to oppose.

Mr. Hastings—I understand your Lordship has ordered a trial of issue?

His Lordship—Yes. The issue is proceeding now.

Su Sing Pui was called and stated that he knew the debtor slightly before he sold the goods in question. Debtor came from Annam and went to the Yuen We Sing where witness saw him and his accountant. The debtor resided there from June to the end of September.

The master of the Yuen We Sing stated that the debtor rented a cubicle from him at \$8 per month. Debtor dealt in cinnamon and put up a notice.

Mr. Hastings submitted his friend had no *locus standi*.

His Lordship replied that he had already decided that point.

Mr. Hastings then addressed the Court pointing out that his friend acting for the judgment creditor wished to obtain the effect of his judgment to the exclusion of the other creditors.

His Lordship did not think that was evidence of other creditors.

Mr. Hastings said the assets were \$14,000 and the liabilities \$90,000.

His Lordship explained that he had admitted Mr Otto Kong Sing because he had raised the question of the jurisdiction of the Court.

Mr. Hastings argued at length that the estate left in Hongkong by the debtor should be available for the payment of the debts which he had contracted here. The question for his Lordship was whether the debtor had a domicile here. The three grounds on which domicile were recognised was ordinary residence, dwelling place and place of business. Debtor had resided in the Colony for three months during which time he had done business.

His Lordship thought that if the debtor came to Hongkong simply to dispose of the cinnamon then there was no jurisdiction. If he consigned the cinnamon to the Kwong Mau to be sold on commission he did not come up on business at all.

His Lordship afterwards said that he proposed to make an order subject to this: that if he were not satisfied on the subject of jurisdiction he should cancel it.

Mr. Otto Kong Sing added that it was clear there was no residence in this case.

His Lordship said he would not grant an order on the ground of pure residence but if he was satisfied there was residence coupled with business then he would grant an order. He added that he would give a written judgment on the point.

## RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

The Central Government having regard to the fact that the Chinese private railways are not making any progress, has ordered the provincial authorities to see that the railways, for which concessions have been given, are constructed forthwith. It is understood, says the *Peking and Tientsin Times*, that if this order shall have again no effect, the Central Government will within a short time itself take charge of building these railways with the help of foreign capital in a similar way as in the case of the Tientsin-Pukou Railway. This will be especially the case with regard to the Canton-Hankow and the Hankow-Chengtufu Railway which the Government can, for political and strategical reasons, dispense with as little as with the Tientsin-Pukou Railway.

A magnificent silver cup was recently presented to Bandmaster McKelvey of the Royal West Kent Regiment, on behalf of the members of the Tanglin Club, Singapore, as showing in a tangible form the high appreciation of the efforts of Mr. McKelvey by the music-loving community of Singapore.

## DEATH OF THE EMPEROR OF CHINA.

## HIS SUCCESSOR PROCLAIMED AND REGENT APPOINTED.

Peking, November 15th.

His Majesty the Emperor Kuang Hsu died on Saturday the 14th inst. at 5 p.m.

Prince Chun's son has been proclaimed the new Emperor, and Prince Chun has been appointed Regent.

The Empress-Dowager is also ill.

Peking is quiet, the news having been suppressed in the capital.

Confirmation of the suppression of the news (which is not unusual when Oriental monarchs die) is afforded by the terms of an Edict which was issued in the Capital on the 15th inst. The substance of the Edict as cabled to the "Chung Ngai San Po" (Chinese Daily Press) states that since the Autumn the Emperor has been ill, and recently the Tartar-Generals, the Governors and the Viceroys of different provinces were requested to send experienced doctors to Peking to attend His Majesty. Doctors had been despatched from Chihli, Kiangsu, Hupeh, Hunan and Chekiang, but their combined skill continued to prove of no avail.

The Emperor had suffered from a complication of maladies and was unable to sleep. As the physicians in attendance were unable to afford his Majesty any relief the Tartar-Generals, Governors and Viceroys were commanded to send other doctors to the Palace, and if the Emperor was cured both doctors and officials would be amply rewarded.

As all serious students of things Chinese are aware the name Kwang-Hsu was not the personal name of the late Emperor, but simply the "reign title," or "year indicator" by which the years of his reign are indicated. Kwang-Hsu means Continuation of Glory. The late Emperor was the son of Prince Chun, the seventh son of the Emperor Tao Kuang. He succeeded his cousin, the late Emperor Tung Chih, who died without issue on the 12th January, 1875, from smallpox. The proclamation announcing the accession of the late sovereign was as follows:—

"Whereas His Majesty the Emperor has ascended upon the Dragon to be a guest on high, without offspring born to his inheritance, no course has been open but that of causing Tsai Tien, son of the Prince of Chun, to become adopted as the son of the Emperor Weng Tsung Hien (Hien Fung, and to enter upon the inheritance of the great dynastic line as Emperor by succession. Therefore, let Tsai Tien, son of Yih Huan, the Prince of Chun, become adopted as the son of the Emperor Weng Tsung Hien, and enter upon the inheritance of the great dynastic line as Emperor by succession."

The late sovereign was the ninth Emperor of China of the Manchu Dynasty of Ta-Tsing (Sublime Purity) which succeeded the native dynasty of Ming in the year 1644. There exists no law of hereditary succession to the Throne in China, but it is left to each sovereign to appoint his successor from among the members of his family. The late Emperor's predecessor dying in the eighteenth year of his age did not designate a successor, and it was, in consequence of palace intrigue, directed by the Empress Dowager in concert with Prince Chun, that the infant son of the latter was declared Emperor. Born in 1871 he assumed the reins of government in February 1887, was married on the 26th February 1889 to Yeh-ho-na-la, niece of the Empress Dowager, and his enthronement took place on the 4th of March following. The reign of the Emperor has thus lasted thirty-three years.

In person the late Emperor was a slight and elegant figure, not more than five feet four in height. Lady Susan Townley wrote of him: "His eyes are his best feature; they are large, dark and sad, set in a square, pallid face, the forehead of which is high and receding, his chin weak and undecided." Miss Carl, who had many opportunities of seeing his Majesty while she was at the Palace a few years ago painting portraits of the Empress-Dowager, wrote of him:

"He has a well-shaped head, with the intellectual qualities well developed, a high brow, with large brown eyes and rather drooping lids, not at all Chinese in form or setting. His nose is high and, like most members of the Imperial Family, is of the so-called 'noble' type. A rather large mouth with thin lips, the upper short with a proud curve, the lower slightly protruding, a clear cut, thin a strong chin a little beyond the line of forehead, with not an ounce of superfluous flesh on the whole face, give him an ascetic air, and, in spite of his rather delicate physique, an appearance of great reserved strength. His face is kindly in expression, but the glance from the heavy-lidded eyebrows is shrewd and intelligent. His manner is shy and retiring, but this does not seem to be so much from a lack of confidence in himself as from the absence of that magnetic quality which gives one an appearance of assurance. Over his whole face there is a look of self-repression which has almost reached a state of passivity."

The Emperor was of a very studious disposition, and followed events with the closest attention. English was among his studies. He was a great reader, and a special official to buy books was kept at the Palace. His position is stated to have been no sinecure, as the Emperor did not devote himself only to Chinese literature and the classics but devoured translations of foreign works and was constantly calling for new ones.

He was passionately fond of music played a number of Chinese instruments and had even tried the piano. Miss Carl also records that he was very clever in a mechanical way and could take to pieces and put together a clock with fair success. He was a very early riser "often getting up as early as two a.m. When there was some ceremony in Peking or some sacrifice to his Ancestors he would go the sixteen miles, perform the ceremony or sacrifice and return in time for the Audience at eight o'clock." He did not care for young associates, either men or women, though he was very fond of children. Miss Carl remarked that he had but few favourites at the Palace, and quite ignored the pretty young girls and women of Her Majesty's entourage. "He seems to have great respect for cleverness." One derives from such an intimate description of the Emperor the impression that if His Majesty had freely exercised his talents he would possibly have made a great name in history. But all his life he has been overshadowed by the Dowager-Empress. "Her Majesty, being his Ancestress, is first in everything." This was no less so in the political than in the social sphere. Our leading article to-day deals with the Emperor as he been represented before the world by his official acts, but the fore-going pen-picture of his private life helps materially, we think, to a better understanding of his public life.

## DEATH OF THE EMPRESS DOWAGER.

## ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN POISONED.

A Peking telegram to the *Daily Press* on the 16th inst. announced that the Empress Dowager of China died the previous day, the 15th inst.

It is rumoured that she was poisoned by someone connected with the Anti-Manchu movement.

We are indebted to Miss Carl's intensely interesting book "With the Empress-Dowager of China" for the following information regarding Her Majesty. Miss Carl was invited to the Palace in 1903 to paint Her Majesty's portrait. She lived in different palaces of Their Celestial Majesties for a few months and her interesting narrative shows that she had opportunities of becoming acquainted with life at the Chinese Court such as no other Foreigner can claim. Miss Carl had no idea of writing a book when she left the Palace as she well knew that it would be looked upon as a flagrant breach of hospitality, but the statements ascribed to her in the newspapers moved her to write in her own defence as well as in the defence of her august patroness, "a full and true relation" of her life at



the Palace and her experiences while painting the portraits of Her Majesty. The *Times* for instance had written of the Empress-Dowager:—"Some one has said she has the soul of a tiger in the body of a woman, and Miss Carl found the old lady shrewd and tempestuous." Miss Carl, on the contrary, found her a charming hostess, considerate of the comfort of those around her and readily sympathising with sorrow. Miss Carl saw her under all circumstances—"at audiences, and in private, in anxiety and sorrow and in joy." Again: "She was too great a lover of Nature in all its phases to be cruel and heartless, and I am convinced she is genuinely kind. She apparently greatly admired intelligence, and goodness always seemed to appeal to her. She was ever a fascinating study, and her magnetic personality was full of charm. I found her thoroughly human and perfectly womanly."

#### A PEN PORTRAIT.

A perfectly proportioned figure, with head well set upon her shoulders and a fine presence; really beautiful hands, daintily small and high-bred in shape; a symmetrical, well-formed head, with a good development above the rather large ears; jet-black hair, smoothly parted over a fine, broad brow; delicate, well-arched eyebrows; brilliant, black eyes, set perfectly straight in the head; a high nose, of the type the Chinese call "noble," broad between the eyes and on a line with the forehead; an upper lip of great firmness, a rather large but beautiful mouth with mobile, red lip, which, when parted, gave her firm white teeth, gave her smile a rare charm; a strong chin, but not of exaggerated firmness and with no marks of obstinacy. Had I not known she was nearing her sixty-ninth year, I should have thought her a well-preserved woman of forty. Being a widow, she used no cosmetics. Her face had the natural glow of health, and one could see that exquisite care and attention were bestowed upon everything concerning her toilet. Personal neatness and an excellent taste in the choice of becoming colours and ornaments enhanced this wonderfully youthful appearance, and a look of keen interest in her surroundings and remarkable intelligence crowned all these physical qualities and made an unusually attractive personality.

#### AS A RULER.

She had the good of China at heart and was really a patriot; in fact, I observed more patriotism, more National pride among the people I saw at Court, than I ever noticed elsewhere in China. I feel convinced the Empress Dowager has strong National feeling and really loves her country, and is as patriotic a Chinese as there is in China. When there were internal troubles, or exterior complications, she seemed to be really worried and to grieve, as if it were a personal thing. She made mistakes, of course, and grave ones, but when it is remembered that her knowledge of what takes place "outside," come entirely from the reports made to her, that she has no opportunity of seeing things for herself, it seems wonderful she does not make more.

Last winter a new scheme of taxation, by which the revenue would be largely increased and which taxation would be scarcely felt by the people, was presented to Their Majesties for consideration. Her Majesty soon grasped the entire scope of the scheme and thought it good and feasible; but though the payment of the foreign indemnity made it imperative to increase the revenue by every means possible, she hesitated over the inauguration of this new scheme, fearing it might give the officials a new opportunity to oppress the common people, for it is not the laws that oppress the people in China. This is done by the officials who enforce them. She evidently realized this power that the officials have of "squeezing" the people, and she wished to be assured of the manner in which this taxation would be enforced before she gave her consent to the scheme. At the first presentation to her of this plan of taxation, she repeated several times, "I fear it may harass the people; we cannot harass the people; they have enough burdens to bear." She was not so particular about not harassing the Officials, for they were called upon all over China to make great contributions to the Imperial Treasury for the purpose of assisting in paying the foreign indemnity.

Notwithstanding her penetration of character, her naturally good judgment, she made mistakes in her appreciation of those who surrounded her; but this was not strange, for she had

almost no opportunity of seeing them in their true light. She was a good physiognomist, but one cannot always trust to physiognomy. She was in habit of giving all who surrounded her a certain amount of latitude, until they came to rely on her favour and revealed themselves in their true light to her. Then she would quickly suppress them or cast them aside. This often seemed cruel and heartless. She sometimes would take another's estimate of a character which she had favourably judged, for, of course, there is a great deal of jealousy and intrigue among her entourage, and she was influenced by reports that she heard; for she was obliged, in order to form an opinion, to listen to the gossip of the Palace. Her own penetration, however, would generally come to her aid and, in the end, her judgment would right itself.

She had strong prejudices, and often allowed herself to be deceived by the favourites to whom she had given her confidence. After several preliminary trials of their character, and when she thought she had arrived at a proper estimate of it, she was an easy victim. These favourites could then act with impunity, and she was sometimes made the dupe of their schemes. Thus Ministers, courtiers, friends, and attendants, who had once thoroughly established their positions with her, could often get the advantage of her and impose upon her natural acumen.

She could be most sarcastic, sometimes cruelly so, but I generally found there was some reason for her sarcasm. She was very impulsive and had her share of temper, but there was never any unladylike display of it. When she was angry her voice was never raised; it simply lost its silvery sweetness and took the quality of some ordinary metal, and she was always quiet and well-bred.

From what I saw of the Empress Dowager, it seemed to me she would not brook interference in the accomplishment of a design she had set her heart upon—that she would not hesitate even at crushing an individual who stood in the way of the realization of some plans she had fixed upon. But her judgment was so good, she did not decide upon a thing unless she felt it was absolutely imperative to carry it out.

As for tact and social savoir, she is remarkable. I never knew any one to possess these qualities to a greater degree. At her first audience to foreigners, Sir Claude MacDonald, in reporting it, spoke of the Empress Dowager as "a kind and courteous hostess, who displayed both the tact and softness of a womanly disposition." Lady Susan Townley says of her: "Where has she learned the ease and dignity with which she receives her European guests?" These opinions of her social tact, so far as I could learn, are held by all the members of the Foreign Legations in Peking.

When the young Prince Adalbert of Prussia was received in special audience by their Majesties, on his visit to Peking, he was accompanied not only by the German Minister and his staff, but by a number of officers as his personal escort. This made an unusually large number of presentations necessary. I have been told that at the audiences of the Diplomatic Corps, where only gentlemen were present, the Empress Dowager had a sort of shyness and did not show the same ease of manner as when she received the ladies. But at this audience of the young Prince she became interested in talking with him, and I heard one of the gentlemen who was present say it was the first time he had seen Her Majesty thoroughly at ease at one of the audiences to the Diplomatic Corps, and that on that day she was perfectly charming, seeming to take the liveliest interest in questioning the young Prince, and conversing with him in a motherly way, and that he then realized to its full extent her wonderful charm and her great social instinct.

#### THE MOURNING.

The proclamation of the death of an Emperor of China is usually made about ten days after the event, during which time arrangements for the succession have been completed. Then the people must go into mourning for a hundred days, an injunction which is, in the cities at least, strictly observed. During this period no weddings are allowed to be celebrated, and no festivities of any kind are allowed. The Regent and Emperor must wear mourning for three years.

There are no accession or coronation ceremonies, the simple announcement of the name of the new Emperor being all that marks the change.

## THE SITUATION AT PEKING.

### NEWS FROM JAPAN.

Our Tokyo correspondent telegraphed on the 17th inst.:—

Sensational rumours of tragic occurrences at the Court of Peking are reaching Tokyo from Japanese newspaper correspondents, but in view of the promptness with which Prince Chun and his colleagues have assumed the government the Japanese Foreign Office does not anticipate any trouble.

### RUMOURS OF IMPENDING TROUBLE.

Our Canton correspondent says that serious trouble is anticipated in Peking as it appears that Prince Tuan claims the Throne for his son, Pu Ch'u, who was proclaimed Heir Apparent when the late Emperor Kwang Hsu was temporarily dethroned by way of extinguishing his enthusiasm for reform. It is rumoured that Prince Tuan is marching on Peking with a large body of soldiers from Manchuria, whether he was exiled on account of the Boxer trouble.

### DEATH-BED EDICTS.

A series of Edicts issued by the late Emperor and the late Empress Dowager were published on Sunday, and are given in our Chinese issue (the *Chung Ngoi San Po*).

The first, signed by the late Emperor, states that as he had been educated and brought up by the Empress-Dowager he had done all he could under Her Majesty's command to promote the welfare of the people. This year he had asked Her Majesty, on account of the state of the country, to take measures for the reform of the administration with a view to the education of the people, the cessation of quarrels with the Christians, to erect colleges, to promote commerce and to so revise the laws as to give to the country a Constitutional Government in order to promote the peace and happiness of the people. The Edict goes on to say that Her Majesty the Empress-Dowager had agreed to all this. The welfare of the people had always been his heartfelt desire, and in times of distress—caused, for instance, by floods,—he had always desired to do what he could to alleviate the sufferings of the people. But since the arrival of Autumn his illness had become serious, and, conscious that he could not recover, he had asked the Empress Dowager to allow Prince Chun's son to succeed him as Emperor. The Edict describes the child as clever and says he will be able to protect the country. All officers, civil and military, are commanded to do all that is in their power to carry out the commands of all the Edicts which have been issued by the Throne, for the welfare of the people; and His Majesty expressed the hope that his sincere desire, that the country should have Constitutional Government nine years hence, would be realised. Finally His Majesty commands that the mourning for him shall be limited, according to former custom, to 27 days.

An Edict issued in the name of the Empress Dowager directs certain Officers of State to make the necessary preparations for the funeral. All the Officials named are Imperial clanmen (Manchus) with the single exception of H. E. Yuan Shih Kai, who is a Chinese.

Another Edict, issued in the name of the late Empress Dowager, relates the fact that the Emperor, like his predecessor, was childless, and announces that the Po-ye, the son of Prince Chun, had been appointed as the successor of the Emperor Tung Chih, as well as of Kwang-Hsu.

A further Edict by the late Empress-Dowager proclaimed Prince Po-ye as Emperor, and Prince Chun as Regent during the Emperor's minority, adding that the Regent would consult with herself (the Empress-Dowager) as to the conduct of the business of the State until the Emperor attained to full age (16 in China).



This was followed by an Edict announcing that the Emperor Kwang-Hsu died at 5 p.m. on the 14th inst.

#### THE INFANT EMPEROR'S FIRST EDICT.

An Edict issued in the name of the infant Emperor deplors the death of his uncle who had occupied the throne for thirty-four years, and announces that in succeeding to the Throne he will conduct the affairs of State with due regard to the proprieties and in accordance with the principles laid down by Her Majesty the Empress Dowager. The Edict proclaims the Emperor's love for his people and gives assurance that he will select the best Ministers in order that the business of the State may be conducted in the most satisfactory manner. Confident that throughout the length and breadth of China the people will be deeply grieved to learn of the Emperor Kwang-Hsu, the Edict hopes that all civil and military officers in the Capital and in the different provinces will remain loyal to the Throne. Governors and high officials are exhorted to do all in their power to carry out the projects of reform with a view to the establishment of sound government, and the Edict adds the assurance that such strivings will rejoice His Majesty Kwang-Hsu in Heaven.

#### THE MOURNING.

The first Edict of the new Emperor refers to the death-bed wish of the late Emperor that the mourning should be limited to 27 days, and the infant sovereign is represented as saying that he feels this period to be insufficient and it is commanded that mourning should be observed for three years, but ceremonies in the Imperial temples are to be carried on as usual.

#### THE NEW EMPRESS-DOWAGER.

Another Edict, dated the 15th inst., directs that Tzu Li should be known as "the great Dowager Empress," and that the designation "Empress-Dowager" should belong to the bereaved Empress.

A special Edict directs the responsible officials to submit a recommendation as to how the Emperor's name should be written. It would be *lese majeste* to write the Emperor's name with the full characters. An abbreviated character is employed.

#### DOWAGER EMPRESS EXPLAINS HER ACTIONS.

An Edict issued by the Empress Dowager herself on the 15th inst. is to the effect that she was selected to be Empress by the Emperor Ham Fung. When her son Tung Chi succeeded to the throne the Taiping rebellion and revolts in other provinces distracted the country but she and Chi An (first wife of the Emperor Ham Fung), acting according to the instruction of her deceased husband, and with the assistance of the Ministers and the generals, succeeded in suppressing the rebellions. After the death of the Emperor Tung Chi, Kwang Hsu succeeded to the throne. At the time the affairs of the country were in a very parlous state. Besides disturbances within the Chinese Empire itself, outside troubles demanded attention, so that she was compelled to help the Emperor to carry on the work and at the same time to prepare for the establishment of constitutional government. This year she appointed the time when the constitution should be introduced. She was then still strong enough to look after affairs but on the arrival of summer and autumn the work became more onerous and she had no time to rest. She lost her appetite and slept very little and her strength gradually waned. Still she did not dare to have a holiday. On the 14th inst., on the day of the death of the Emperor, she became very depressed. For about fifty years she had swayed the destinies of the empire during which time she had exerted herself to the utmost in the interests of China. At present reform on constitutional lines was contemplated and the empire was gradually improving and advancing. The present Emperor was still very young. Prince Chun, the regent, and all the other officers in the capital and in different provinces should give him every assistance to protect the country and the Emperor should exert himself to improve his knowledge and help to make China a great power.

#### PREPARATIONS FOR THE FUNERAL.

Another edict is issued in the name of the young Emperor. It states that he has been appointed Emperor by Emperor Kwang-Hsu and the Empress Dowager. Unexpectedly on the 14th inst. the Emperor Kwang-Hsu died and on the following day at 2 p.m. the Empress Dowager

died. He adds that he will carry out her instruction with regard to mourning and to looking after the affairs of the country and he therefore appointed ministers which include Prince Su, Luk Chuen Lum (grand secretary), and others, to make the necessary preparations for the funeral.

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFICIALS.

Another edict by the young Emperor states that on account of the deaths of the Emperor and Empress Dowager the Tartar Generals, Viceroy, Governors, generals, etc., should continue in their office and need not apply for permission to come to the capital to pay their respects to him.

A third edict issued in his name asks the officers who look after the gates of the Forbidden City to keep strict order and not to allow people to be found there without reasonable excuse. Every place should be properly guarded and if any officer be found negligent he will be severely punished.

#### SUPPRESSION OF NEWS AT CANTON.

Writing on Monday our Canton correspondent says:—

H.E. the Viceroy of Canton has received a cablegram from His Excellency Chang Chih Tung stating that the Palace is quiet and requesting him to reassure the people of the Kwangtung province and to arrest and punish agitators.

It is stated that on Sunday afternoon His Excellency Viceroy Chang sent deputies to the Local Press here requesting them not to publish the news concerning the Emperor's death. This step was probably taken because the Local Authorities had not received official instructions from the Central Government to announce the Emperor's death to the public. This morning all the local papers are silent concerning the death of the Emperor; they only mention that His Majesty is seriously ill.

At about 10.30 a.m. to-day another telegram reached Canton announcing the death of the Empress Dowager and the news has since been confirmed by the local officials.

At 10 a.m. this morning the German, Japanese and Dutch consular flags were half-masted. The English and the French consulates did not half-mast their flags until about 1 p.m.

#### NATIONAL MOURNING—ITS EFFECT ON TRADE.

The Emperor and the Empress Dowager will not be officially dead until 20 days are past. When the deaths are proclaimed the Viceroy of Canton and the high officials will have to go every morning to the Emperor's Temple in the City for 40 days to perform the prescribed mourning rites.

The Emperor's death entails general mourning for 100 days. This will seriously affect trade as, according to the etiquette observed on such occasions, no silk or gaudy-coloured suits can be worn and (alas! for the barbers!) the hair cannot be shaved. Theatres and other pleasure houses will be closed; no marriage can take place, no music will be allowed even at funerals. The loss to owners of pleasure resorts will be enormous. The Manchus and Bannermen will have to go into mourning for three years. By the way, several of my Chinese friends tell me that they will go to Hongkong or Macao whenever they need to have their hair shaved or "to look see sing song" during the State mourning. No doubt Hongkong and Macao will have a busy time during the State mourning days, especially as it happens to fall in the Chinese marriage season.

There will be a large invasion of this class of people from the Kwangtung province to Hongkong and Macao to put through their marriage ceremonies.

#### NO TROUBLE ANTICIPATED.

The Canton correspondent of the *Chung Ngoy San Po* (Chinese Daily Press) writing on the 18th inst. says that the brother of a Peking official, resident in Canton, has received a telegram stating that when the death of the Emperor and Empress Dowager was announced great excitement prevailed, and trouble was anticipated. All fears, however, were dispelled with the appointment of the new Emperor, and the capital is now quiet.

#### MOURNING REGULATIONS.

Our Canton correspondent writes on the 18th inst.:—According to ancient custom the Local Authorities would have to wait until the arrival of the written Edict from Peking before

issuing the proclamation ordering State Mourning. On this occasion, the Foreign Consuls here having already received cable instructions from their respective Ministers announcing officially the death of Their Majesties the late Emperor Kwong Hsu and the Empress Dowager the Consuls caused their flags to be half-masted. Upon His Excellency the Viceroy being informed of the respect paid by the Foreign Consuls to the deceased Imperial personages, His Excellency telegraphed to Peking for instructions as to how he should act in the matter. Yesterday the Viceroy received a cable from the Board of Rites in Peking requesting His Excellency to start the State Mourning on the 19th instant.

The Viceroy has notified the officials and the gentry that the death ceremonies of the late Emperor and Empress Dowager will take place to-morrow in two separate buildings viz: that of the late Emperor in the Kwam Tai Temple and the late Empress Dowager in Wong Wah Hall. All the officials from the Viceroy downwards will have to go to each of these two places twice daily (7 a.m. and 2 p.m.) to weep before the tablets of the deceased Imperial personages for three days from the 19th instant.

Two proclamations have been issued to-day giving the mourning rites for the officials and the people, the gist being as follows:—

#### OFFICIAL MOURNING RITES.

During 27 days, commencing from the 26th day of the 10th moon (19th instant) all officials must be in deep mourning; they must wear white long robes and use white official chairs. After the expiration of 27 days they are to wear long cloth robes for 100 days. At the end of the 100 days all officials are required to wear silk robes of a darkish colour without any figured designs for three years. During the 27 days from the 19th instant all officials must use blue ink pads for stamping their official seals, and all official documents, dispatches, proclamations, &c., must be written in blue ink. All the courts and official reception parlours must be draped in mourning. No official will be permitted to shave his head, and no wedding will be allowed for 100 days. No music will be allowed in the yamens, or in the houses of the officials for one year. All red lanterns are to be immediately removed from the yamens and replaced by blue ones. No beating of gongs or music of whatever nature will be permitted when officials go out to pay calls.

#### MOURNING RITES OF THE COMMON PEOPLE.

During 27 days commencing from the 15th instant all persons must be in deep mourning. Men must not wear red tassels and buttons on their hats and women must not wear gold hair ornaments or jewellery of any description. During 100 days from the 15th instant no man must shave his head. Marriages are prohibited for one month commencing from the 15th instant and music is prohibited for 100 days.

#### BUSINESS.

Several lines of business had an exceptionally brisk time in the City both to-day and yesterday. Over 200 marriages took place here during those two days. It is said that all cakes in the pastry shops and restaurants have been bought up on account of the numerous weddings, and there were not a few funerals with long and grand processions accompanied by music. All silver earrings, ear picks, and in fact silver jewelry of any description available in the market have been bought up during the last two days. The silver smiths in the City are now working day and night to meet the demands.

#### THE MOURNING AT COURT.

In response to a memorial presented by the Imperial Princes and High Officials, the Emperor has issued an Edict stating that following the examples of his predecessors on the Throne he will not wear deep mourning for the whole period of three years, but only for the first 100 days. During the remaining twenty-seven months he will wear light mourning.

#### THE CONDOLENCES OF FOREIGN NATIONS.

Another Edict issued on Saturday gratefully acknowledges the messages of condolence received from foreign nations and refers to this sympathy as strengthening the bonds of friendship.



## DISTURBANCES FEARED.

The Edict proceeds to warn the public against spreading lying rumours calculated to disturb the peace. It has come to the knowledge of the government that evilly-disposed persons are going into the interior for the purpose of stirring up a rebellion, and the Board of Local Affairs, the Commander of the Bodyguards together with the Provincial Viceroys and Governors are commanded to give instructions to the civil and military officers to be on the alert, and to issue rewards for the capture of the ringleaders. After prompt trial such as are found guilty are to be immediately executed. The officers effecting the capture of the rebels are to be amply rewarded.

## DEATH OF PRINCE CHING.

The death of His Highness Prince Ching President of the Wai-wu-pu is, we regret to learn, confirmed. It occurred on Wednesday about 1 p.m. The Prince, says the message, was overwhelmed with sorrow on learning of the death of the Emperor and Empress Dowager, and was troubled because he was not permitted to take part in the enthronement of the present monarch, and the probable loss of power he would suffer under the present regime.

## DOCTORS DEGRADED.

A telegram to the *Chung Ngai San Po* (Chinese Daily Press) states that all the doctors in the Imperial Hospital who were engaged to attend on the deceased Emperor have been degraded and deprived of their rank although allowed to remain in office. The doctors who were commanded by the Viceroys and Governors of provinces to attend are also to be punished by being lowered two degrees in their rank but are allowed to remain in office.

## THE EMPEROR'S NAME.

A telegram received in Canton by the correspondent of the *Chung Ngai San Po* states that the baby emperor is to be named Sun Tung.

## PROTECTIVE MEASURES.

The Grand Secretary, according to another telegram, has given instructions to the officers responsible for the protection of Peking to take every precaution to ensure the adequate protection of the capital, otherwise they will be severely punished. Soldiers have been added to the guard of the Forbidden City and the police have been instructed to prohibit rumours concerning the action of the Government.

## ARREST IN THE PALACE.

Our Chinese contemporary is also informed by telegraph that Li Lin Ying, the chief eunuch, and four others were arrested and sent to the Board of Punishment to be kept in custody as a punishment for their interference with the action of the Government.

## NATIVE BANKS HARD PRESSED.

Another telegram is to the effect that the native banks in Peking being hard pressed and suffering from tightness of money the Board of Finance has come to their assistance with a large sum of money and thereby removed the fears of the people.

## MOURNING.

On the 18th November a mourning service for the Emperor took place.

## THE ROYAL SIGNATURE.

Another telegram announces that Prince Chak has been authorised to sign the name of the Emperor during his infancy.

## PEKING QUIET.

The city is quiet, military precautions having been taken to prevent any disturbance.

## RIOTS AT SINGAPORE.

A Singapore telegram to the *Daily Press* on the 19th inst. stated:—

Riots have occurred here to-day owing to the refusal of Straits-born Chinese to join in the mourning for the late Emperor and Empress Dowager of China. Shops and tramcars were stoned and a constable was injured. Fights took place among rival sets of coolies. Many arrests have been made in connection with these disturbances.

On Nov. 15, being the anniversary of the birthday of the King of Portugal, His Excellency the Governor and party paid an official visit to Macao in H.M.S. *Clio*. The Governor was accompanied by Mr. A. J. Brackenbury, Private Secretary, Captain Simson, A.D.C., Hon. Mr. F. H. and Mrs. May, Commodore, Mrs. and Miss Lyons. The visitors from Hongkong were entertained at luncheon at Government House Macao by H. E. Senhor Roccas, and returned to Hongkong in the evening.

## THE SHANGHAI LIBEL CASE.

In H.B.M. Supreme Court at Shanghai on November 10th, before His Honour Mr. F. S. A. Bourne, Acting Judge, and a jury composed of Messrs. E. A. Morris, F. E. Glanville, K. D. Stewart, H. Veitch and H. E. Campbell, the charge against H. D. O'Shea, of the *China Gazette* of libelling Judge Wilfley was heard.

Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Crown Advocate, and Mr. R. E. Gregson, prosecuted, and the defendant was represented by Messrs. Ellis and Hays.

In the pleadings the defendant said:—

Our Lord the King ought not further to prosecute the said indictment against him, because he says that it is true that the matter in the said publication referred to did in fact show on the part of the said L. R. Wilfley indecency, mendacity and a contempt for truth and justice and a desire to revenge himself as alleged therein, and that the said L. R. Wilfley is in truth and in fact a coarse, unscrupulous and ignorant and vulgar mountebank as alleged and that the said L. R. Wilfley is in truth and in fact intellectually mentally and morally unfitted for and incapable of exercising his judicial functions as alleged, and that the said L. R. Wilfley in making the statement in the said publication referred to was in fact stating what he knew at the time to be untrue with the object of misleading the said members of the House Committee as alleged therein and that the said L. R. Wilfley had in fact extended protection to persons notorious in Shanghai as swindlers and that his plea in regard to companies organized and operating under the Hongkong Ordinances was in fact false as alleged in the said publication.

And the said Henry David O'Shea further says that before and at the time of the publication in the said indictment mentioned the said L. R. Wilfley was holding a judicial position as judge of the U. S. Court for China in Shanghai and that members of the public in Shanghai might at any time be under the necessity of entrusting the adjustment and enforcement of their rights and the rectification of their wrongs either civil or criminal to the judgement care of the said L. R. Wilfley in such capacity as aforesaid—that the said judicial office is one which should in the interests of the whole community, both Chinese and foreign, of Shanghai, be filled by a person of integrity, of unbiassed mind, of scrupulous fairness, truthfulness and honesty, and of unquestioned legal ability—that the said L. R. Wilfley was by reason of the matters hereinbefore set forth a person unfitted for his said judicial office and for the conscientious carrying out and performance of the duties appertaining thereto by reason whereof it was for the public benefit that the said matters so charged in the said indictment should be published, and this he, the said H. D. O'Shea is ready to verify. Wherefore he prays judgement, and that by the Court here he may be dismissed and discharged from the said premises in the said indictment above specified.

The Crown Advocate's reply was:—The said H. P. Wilkinson, Crown Advocate, says that by reason of anything in the second plea alleged, our said Lord the King ought not to be precluded from further prosecuting the said indictment against the said H. D. O'Shea, because he says, that he denies the said several matters in the said second plea alleged, and says that the same are not, nor are nor is any or either of them true. And this he the said Crown Advocate prays may be inquired of by the country and the said H. D. O'Shea doth the like.

As announced by telegram the defendant was convicted and sentenced to two months' imprisonment.

Great interest was taken in the action for criminal libel against Mr. Henry O'Shea, editor and proprietor of the *China Gazette*, Shanghai.

Mr. Justice Bourne in the course of his summing up to the Jury said: If Mr. O'Shea could show that what he said was true and that he said it for the public benefit then he was entitled to the Jury's verdict. There were two points then to which the Jury had to direct their attention. The first point was as to whether the libel was true, and the second was whether it was for the public benefit that it should be published.

With regard to the truth of the charges they were in rather a more difficult position than they might have been, because Mr. O'Shea had not given the exact facts on which he strove to justify his libel. To make this quite clear he would explain that one of the charges was that Judge Wilfley had protected notorious swindlers. Now if it had been pleaded in writing that between certain dates and in a particular manner he had protected Black, and that Black was a notorious swindler and then a similar fact about other notorious swindlers, the Jury would want nothing to be satisfied of except that these allegations were true, and they would, on being satisfied, say that this libel of Judge Wilfley was justified. But they had nothing like that. His Lordship said they went rapidly over the charges one by one leaving the jury to decide how far they justified the libel. One of the most important matters which had been adduced by the defendant in support of his libel was the remarks which Judge Wilfley had said about Mr. O'Shea. His Lordship desired to say at once that he was going to deal with Judge Wilfley as a private person. He had every respect for the sister Court in this place, but what he thought it necessary to say he would say without the least compunction. There was the charge against Mr. O'Shea that he was disreputable and that he went over from the support of the Japanese to the Russians. With regard to the latter he said himself that he had been chaffed about that. About the first part—being disreputable—Judge Wilfley said that he came new to this place and gathered from his friends and from people he met what he understood to be the reputation of Mr. O'Shea and what he said to the people at Washington was exactly what he gathered from what people told him in Shanghai. Now the jury had to consider whether what he said was making a white sheep a black sheep, or whether it was making a brown sheep a little darker. The Jury must remember that when Judge Wilfley said these things of Mr. O'Shea he was on his defence. If they thought what he said amounted to saying that a virtuous person was a blackguard that would be serious; but if it was only a slight exaggeration, his Lordship did not see how this would help Mr. O'Shea. The Jury would remember that there was one other thing which was said and that was that Mr. O'Shea's paper did not enter the best homes. Mr. Wilfley no doubt knew whether the paper was taken at the houses of his friends and the jury must judge for themselves whether these were reasonable conclusions for him to draw or gross exaggerations. The evidence adduced in this Court as to the examination of the lawyers left a nasty taste in the mouth. Judge Wilfley had the discretion of dealing with these persons as he chose, but it did seem to his Lordship that if Mr. O'Shea had criticized that proceeding with candour and sincerity he would have been justified in doing so. What his Lordship did not like was that there was a confusion between the literary examination and moral character. He did not see why that need have been. If Mr. Holcombe wished to go up for examination, he did not see why Judge Wilfley should advise him that he had better not. Judge Wilfley might have said that he had better come up again in six months. The examination and certificates as to moral character should have been kept quite distinct. The man should have been told: "Here are your papers and you have failed. You had better come up in six months." The way this matter had been dealt with had created the feeling amongst these lawyers that they had not had, to use a slang expression, "a run for their money." What was done his Lordship thought was harsh and precipitate, in fact Judge Wilfley himself had acknowledged that it was too short notice. About that his Lordship thought that if Mr. O'Shea, had made this criticism that the result of the examination, and of the investigation as to moral character should have been decided separately and that these old lawyers should have been given more than seven days' notice and that they had been dealt with in a harsh way, that would have been justified, but no more. Turning to the question of the Water-tower district, his Lordship said that the jury knew what had been alleged. There it seemed to him also that there was some degree of harshness; not that he could say that the Judge of the American Court was to blame, for



what had been done was done legally, but there was a discretion and it was a question of whether this discretion had been judicially exercised. A celebrated English Judge had said, "Let us determine matters here so that they shall stand with the reason of mankind when debated abroad." It seemed to his Lordship that this matter had been dealt with rather too much in a hurry; it was like blazing into the brown instead of picking off the birds one by one as opportunity offered.

The other evidence which had been adduced in support of the libel His Lordship referred to in terms which showed that it had carried very little weight with him, and then proceeded to say that the jury had heard counsel on both sides and he had endeavoured to direct their attention to the facts on which this libel was stated to be based. Now what they ought to do was to compare the facts with the libel itself and they had to say to themselves "Can these facts support such a weight of opprobrium as we read in this libel?" This libel was not couched in calm words of reason, but in a hot blast of invectives. The jury had to say whether this was true or half true, or if it was quite untrue. If they found that these things which were stated were true, they had to consider whether they were written for the benefit of the public. It was quite legal to discuss and criticize the decisions of Judges, but such criticism must not be a cloak for personal spite or attacks on character. Criticism of their judgements was welcome to Judges whose object was to do justice, but such criticism must be couched in language respectful to the Judge who was clothed for the time being with the power given by the State. Now his Lordship could not say that there was nothing to criticize; he thought there was a great deal to criticize and he thought that there was a great deal for which Judge Wilfley could not possibly be blamed.

With regard to Judge Wilfley himself it was with the greatest reluctance that his Lordship said anything, but in the interests of justice he thought that he ought to say that a criticism which the *China Gazette* might have brought forward to the public benefit of the community, American citizens and the Judge himself was that he need not have been in such a hurry and that if he had settled down quietly and without any question of lawyers, and if there were any black sheep, he would have had an opportunity of dealing with them as the question came along. It was not his Lordship's business to enter upon criticism at all, but he wanted the Jury to understand what Mr. O'Shea might have said in order that they might see what he had no right to say. A criticism of that sort with candour and sincerity would have been legal and it would have been the duty of any newspaper here to have it. But it seemed to his Lordship that particular libel went very far beyond that. It went beyond the bounds of anything the public benefit could require. A case might arise where a Judge ought to be removed from office. It that was so, would not a sincere man have gone about that matter in a very different manner? Would he not have stated facts in moderation and commented upon them calmly? Would he not have left these citizens of the United States resident in China to bring these more gross charges in a right way? Ought Mr. O'Shea here to have attacked the Judge of another nation in such a way as to bring his administration into contempt? Of course the Jury must weigh the evidence with cool heads and do their duty between the Crown and the accused. It seemed to his Lordship that the Jury must look at the charges and see whether Mr. O'Shea had proved all of them. If he had proved all of them to be true, then they had to see if they ought to have been published for the public benefit, and if they ought to have been published in the manner in which he published them. Unless the Jury believed that it was all true and that it was all for the public benefit to publish them in this way then they must find him guilty.

Mr. Ellis asked his Lordship to instruct the jury as to any reasonable doubt they might have.

His Lordship said that Mr. O'Shea published libellous matter. In the ordinary way he would direct the jury to find a verdict of guilty. Then the statute came in and said that the onus was

thrown on the defendant and he had got to prove the truth of it and that it was published in the public interest. He must prove it all.

Mr. Ellis said that the Jury might have a reasonable doubt as to whether he had proved all the charges and had satisfied them as to the benefit.

His Lordship said that of course if the Jury were in doubt, having given the matter their sincere consideration, and they still remained in doubt as to what they ought to do, they would give the accused the benefit of that doubt.

The Jury had one issue to try and that was whether Mr. O'Shea had shown that this palpable libel was true and whether it was for the public benefit. The jury would consider their verdict.

The jury then retired to consider their verdict. On returning to Court the Jury answered that they found defendant guilty.

Defendant had nothing to say, and sentence was about to be passed when the Crown Advocate rose and said—My Lord, I think perhaps, it would be right if I would say that as far as the Crown is concerned in this case, and as the object of this case is to put an end to such libels on the Judge of a friendly Power, as far as the Crown is concerned, we leave it entirely at your Lordship's discretion. The Crown is quite satisfied with such a sentence as will mark the fact of the libel, and the private complainant wishes nothing in the way of an extreme penalty. All the Crown desires is that in the interests of the public, and of the two Courts, the libel be marked as one which cannot be allowed.

His Lordship—You do not press for a heavy sentence?

The Crown Advocate—No.

His Lordship (addressing the defendant)—Henry David O'Shea, you have had a very careful trial, and you have been very ably defended. I do not see that any reasonable man could have come to any other conclusion under the law as it is, than that conclusion the Jury has come to. I think it is the conclusion that any man who has heard this case must have come to. When you wrote those words you must have known that you were writing a gross libel about a man who was just returning to begin his duties as Judge of the Court of a friendly nation here. I have considered the reason—I must say that there was something to provoke you—I have considered that. I have also very carefully considered the remarks of Mr. Wilkinson, and the fact that the prosecution merely wished to have justice done, and does not call for a heavy sentence. I am very sorry it happens to be my duty to pass sentence upon you at all, but it is my duty, and I sentence you to two months' imprisonment as a misdemeanor of the first division.

Mr. Ellis—On behalf of the defendant I wish now to make an application. Defendant has asked me to represent to you that being in the position he is, perhaps your Lordship may say if he can be allowed out on bail for two or three days, for the purpose of making certain arrangements with regard to his business. Bail will be of such a character as will probably satisfy your Lordship, and also all the requirements and wishes of my friend the Crown Advocate.

The Crown Advocate—I have no precedent in my mind, and the responsibility is too great for me. I leave it entirely to your Lordship.

His Lordship—I do not see how it can be done. I will make this arrangement. He can for two days see people in the presence of the chief constable of the gaol for the purpose of giving directions. I do not know of any precedent for any other indulgence than that. (To the jury) I am very much obliged to you, gentlemen, for your careful attention to this case. It has occupied your time for several days, and you will be exempted from further service for this year and the three succeeding years. We are all very much indebted to you.

#### ESTABLISHMENT OF CUSTOMS STATIONS ON RAILWAYS.

The Presidents of the Boards of Finance and Posts and Communication have agreed that Customs stations shall be established at all important points along the railways, and that with this object in view a preliminary enquiry should be ordered so as to find out exactly the number of such places.

#### MANILA'S NEW WATER SUPPLY.

Manila's new water supply was turned on last week, the Governor-General turning the wheel which gave to the city its new supply. "Morning baths now," is the heading given in a Manila contemporary to the report of the ceremony. The water is taken from the Mariquina River 20 miles northeast of Manila. The watershed above the point of diversion covers about 140 square miles of mountain and forest and is withdrawn from settlement. Private property within this reservation will be expropriated, and the entire district will be freed from human contamination forever. "The reservoir is rectangular in plan and measures 509 by 764 feet and is 20 feet deep. Its capacity is 50,000,000 gallons. Its construction involved the excavation of 275,000 cubic yards of material, the placing of about 9,000 cubic yards of concrete, and the use of about 120,009 pounds of steel.

The dam is 400 feet long on the crest and about 85 feet in extreme height. It is built of cyclopean masonry, or concrete in which large stones are embedded. Behind the dam will be a storage basin which will serve the city during the dry months when the discharge of the river is less than that necessary for the supply.

The cost of the completed work is about P3,000,000 as far as the Deposito, and the distribution system to be installed throughout the city will cost about P1,000,000 additional.

The Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific Company were the contractors for the building of the steel pipe, tunnel, and conduit; the Matson, Lord and Belser Company for the reservoir and dam.

Mr. Salvador Farre is the subcontractor for the dam, and the Manila Construction Company has completed the reservoir and gatehouse.

The new system supplies 22,500,000 gallons of water each twenty-four hours—enough to give every man, woman, and child in the city 600 gallons per day."

#### SALE OF FIREARMS TO CHINA.

##### FORMATION OF JAPANESE TRUST.

Japanese papers report that the Chinese Government is eager to improve the Army, and the number of rifles and guns purchased by each provincial government is rapidly increasing. Great importance is now placed by merchants of various countries on the export of firearms to China, and an acute rivalry has sprung up in the sale of firearms to China. The diversity of nationality of the competitors is evident in the struggle. At present Messrs. Armstrong & Co., of England, and Krupps of Germany, reign supreme. In Japan the Mitsui, Okura, and Takata have been competing among themselves. The German merchants are said to be outdoing the Japanese in the lavish bribery of Chinese officials, and not grudging expenditure on this object. Aware of the disadvantage under which Japanese firms labour in being divided and striving in competition against each other, the Mitsui, Okura, and Takata firms have formed a trust to sell firearms to China. The Japanese military arsenals are having a period of slackness since the war, and can spare time for the manufacture of firearms for the Chinese Army. The Chinese officials are, however, influenced more by the commission paid to them than by the quality of the arms when giving orders, and German merchants have therefore the supremacy in the competition, Japanese merchants coming next. English merchants, whose notions of commercial morality are higher, are being outdone by the merchants of the two countries mentioned.—*Japan Chronicle*.

Now that the revenue of Netherlands India sorely needs increase, the Government is considering a scheme for getting more money out of tobacco planters. At present, on every bale of 100 kilogrammes exported from the Colony, one guilder is levied in Java; The same rate is also levied in Deli, but the bale weighs only 80 kilogrammes. This tax yielded 715,000 guilders in 1906. It is pointed out that Sumatra tobacco fetches a higher price than Java leaf, and that, in common fairness, tobacco should be taxed on the value and not on the weight. The main objection to the idea is that a duty on the value would be hard to collect.



## COMMERCIAL.

## IMPORTS:—

## RICE.

HONGKONG, 23rd November:—The prices are slightly advancing, market being brisk.

Quotations are:—

|                                     |        |    |        |
|-------------------------------------|--------|----|--------|
| Saigon, Ordinary .....              | \$5.45 | to | \$5.50 |
| " Round, Good quality ...           | 5.00   | to | 5.10   |
| " Long .....                        | 5.30   | to | 5.35   |
| Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 ... | 4.95   | to | 5.00   |
| " Garden, " No. 1 ...               | 5.05   | to | 5.15   |
| " White, .....                      | 5.20   | to | 5.25   |
| " Fine Cargo .....                  | 5.80   | to | 5.95   |

## SUGAR.

MANILA, 31st October. — Manila, Nominal Taal: Nominal. Iloilo: Market has ruled quiet over the interval — the cargo per s.s. "Fiume" was taken up by Chinese in Iloilo at P. 5.- b. a. — A few orchadas of new crop have already come in and these have found buyers at P. 5.08½ b. a. which at ex: 2/1 is equal to £8. 19. 2. per ton f. o. b. Old stocks are very small, we estimate there are not more than 500 tons of these still available for export. Weather for milling operations is very favourable, consequently we may expect to see arrivals rather earlier than usual this season.

## PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co. of Shanghai in their latest Piece Goods Report, dated Shanghai 18th November, states:—Although there has been more movement during the interval in American goods, and rather better prices are now being offered, our market remains for the most part in a state of stagnation. Fresh business is altogether out of the question, the dealers still being able to supply all wants from the goods they have in hand, supplemented by the Auctions, which by the way, we understand are to be still further reduced in quantity this week. For English goods there is absolutely no enquiry privately, and the wretchedly wet weather has not helped clearances again. The outlook is still very gloomy, the enquiry for Newchwang being just a flash in the pan in view of the early closing of that Port. Tientsin is in a hopeless condition, but has a small enquiry for Yarns. The news received from Hankow yesterday of the failure of four Banks there caused a scare on this market, but the subsequent information that the actual loss will not amount to more than some ten per cent of the sum named, 3,700,000 taels, has had a reassuring effect here. It is difficult to understand why there should be such troubles at that Port, as trade there should be on quite a satisfactorily sound basis now, as the Railway is said to be tapping districts hitherto unexploited and the export trade should be greatly benefitted by the present low Exchange. The Korean market is lifeless. The reason is not at all clear, for the crops are quite good, but there is simply no disposition to buy. News was received early in the interval that the Cotton trade dispute had been settled on the basis of the reduction in Wages not coming into effect until March instead of January, the Mills to resume work on the 9th instant, though subsequent telegrams say they will only work half time for the present. The market is strong and quotations are over the prices ruling here, which comes about by the low rate of Exchange. Cotton remains fairly steady in Liverpool, the quotations for Mid American coming 5.07d for spot, 4.86d. for the rest of the month and 4.71d. for February/March. Egyptian is firmer at 8½d. As regards the steadiness in Cotton the Manchester Guardian market report of 19th October says:—"The movement of American Cotton continues freely, and perhaps the slightly better reports of trade in the United States may be doing something to balance the state of things in Lancashire. Here there is a remarkable absence of effective demand, and even often a month's stoppage of most of the spindles the supply of Yarn seems pretty well up to the demand. We hear of looms stopping every day, and were the labour dispute to be settled to-morrow it would be some time before the industry got fairly under way again." Happily the forecast that there were no prospects for an early settlement have not been fulfilled. Trade in the United States is booming now after the long months of depression. The Presidential election seems to have given general satisfaction and has effected a revival in the home demand. Quotations for export, on the basis of 9s. 11½d. for 8 yard goods, lays them

down eight to ten per cent over this market, so nothing is likely to be done at present. Cotton is up twenty to thirty points. The actual consumptive demand for Yarns is really not so strong as it looks on the face of it. In many instances business has been purely speculative and the dealers operating have had to resell at a loss. However, the light stock at present here enables Importers to keep prices up. It is reported at the close that 2,500 to 3,000 bales Japanese Yarn have been contracted for in Osaka for this market. Local spinnings are strong in sympathy with the imported article. Native Cotton is strong and advancing. The rapid expansion of the Cotton industry in China must not be lost sight of when comparing the figures of the Foreign import trade with former years.

## YOKOHAMA MARKET.

The Yokohama Market report of the 30th Oct., Published under the Foreign Board of Trade, says:—Cotton Yarns.—Market still quiet. Cotton Piece Goods.—No new business has been done to speak of since last report. The market remains depressed and deliveries have completely fallen off. Woollens and Woollen Mixtures.—Flannels have been moving fairly well, but very little fresh business has been booked. Of army cloth, deliveries have been fairly active, but the demand for Coatings generally has been of a very sluggish nature. Blanket buyers are operating cautiously and stocks are moving very slowly. Textiles Generally are very inactive, and buyers are chiefly intent on clearing off stocks and show a hold-off disposition with regard to next season's requirements. Raw Cotton.—The market remains lifeless, as spinners are not yet inclined to pay the higher prices ruling in the producing countries. Rice.—No change; market glutted and quotations are quite nominal. Metals.—No change. Home prices of Belgian Basic Steel Bars have undergone a further slight decline, and considerable business has been done for December and Feb. shipment Window Glass.—"Spot" prices continue above home values, and, though there have been some arrivals, the local market is likely to remain strong until the end of the year. Kerosine.—Arrivals and deliveries for the second half of October show. Standard Oil Co.: arrivals nil, deliveries 8,500 cases; Rising Sun Petroleum Co., arrivals nil, deliveries 4,500 units. Sugar.—Nothing to report. The market for imported sugar remains lifeless. Flour.—No change since last report. There is still an insignificant business being done for forward delivery. Wheat.—The consumption of foreign importations is said to be exhausted, and the mills are now using the native production.

## RAW SILK

During the ten days under review our market has remained steady and a fair business has been done, Europe having at last shown signs of improvement. At the close, prices are firm with an upward tendency.

## WASTE SILK

Market.—Fairly active without any change in quotations. Prices paid for low Kibizzo are still relatively high. Settlements from Oct. 12th to Oct. 22nd, 3,700 piculs. Total Settlements from July 1st to Oct. 22nd, 20,550 piculs. Stock on Oct. 23rd is estimated at 8,500 piculs, viz:—

|                         |       |         |
|-------------------------|-------|---------|
| Noshi .....             | 1,000 | piculs. |
| Kibizzo .....           | 5,200 | "       |
| Pierced Cocoons } ..... | 1,700 | "       |
| Sundries .....          |       |         |

Total.....8,500 piculs

Against last year ..... 27,000

## HABUTAI.

Kanazawa.—The advance noted in our last has been maintained with a firm tendency. The demand for America has improved, especially in 27 inch goods from 4½ to 5½ momme. For Europe there has been a continued demand for 23 inch and raw goods. Echizen.—The market is somewhat unsettled, but there is a good demand for Kinnu 2½ momme. There has been some demand for 36 inch goods 8 momme upwards for America, but enquiries from Europe are all below Japanese parity. Kawamata. — As compared with last month, the market is stronger and has slightly advanced.

## TEA.

In the interval, a few fired teas have changed hands, but there cannot be said to be any market. Of raw teas, the stock appears to be quite exhausted. Total settlements at Yokohama from May 1st to October 29th amount to 82,000 piculs, against 101,500 piculs at the corresponding date last year.

## EXPORTS:—

## CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 23rd November:—There is no market and there is no change of price \$83.50 -- \$84.50.

## MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per P. & O. steamer, *Sumatra*, sailed on 5th Nov. 1908:—For Marseilles:—3 cases human hair. For London:—1,150 cases preserves, 1,510 packages tea, 25 cases wine, 16 cases dry lyobees, 6 cases empty gas flasks, 8 packages private effects and curios.

Per P. & O. steamer *Delhi*, sailed on 14th Nov., 1908. For Manchester:—525 bales waste silk. For Gibraltar:—50 packages tea, 2 cases silk, 1 package wearing apparel. For Barcelona:—250 boxes tea. For St. hamond:—43 bales raw silk. For Milan:—20 bales raw silk. For Lyons:—190 bales raw silk. Marseilles:—85 packages tea, 90 bales raw silk, 1 case silk embroidery, 1 case bird's feathers, 60 cases bristles. For London:—335 bales pierced cocoons, 200 bales waste silk, 145 packages tea, 70 bales raw silk, 30 rolls matting, 40 cases bristles, 30 cases woodware, 4 cases copperware, 24 cases chinaware, 26 bales canes, 9 cases fans, 5 cases silks, 12 packages private effect, 1 case cigar. For Beyrouth:—6 cases punjum silk.

## HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 20th November, 1908.—Rates generally speaking have ruled firm during the week and a fair business has been transacted, retarded however to a great extent, by the disinclination of holders to part at current rates, and by the unsettled condition of affairs in China a special feature of the market is the continued rise in Hongkong and Shanghai Banks and the demand for several minor stocks. On the whole a better feeling seems to be apparent, and the market closes steady in most stocks.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai with a continued demand at 815 and no sellers coming forward, the rate rapidly rose to 820, at which some shares changed hands, but the demand continuing it further rose to 822½ at which small sales were effected. At time of closing an enquiry at 825 fails to meet with a response, and it is probable that a slightly higher rate could be obtained. Nationals remain unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have changed hands during the week at 785 and more shares are wanted at the rate. Cantons have improved to 180 with buyers, and in the absence of sellers it is possible that a higher rate would be paid for any shares on the market. North Chinas continue with buyers at 87½, but no shares appear to be available. China Traders and Yangtzes are unchanged, with the former still in demand.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong Fires have been placed at 330, closing steady but with a few shares obtainable. Chinas have advanced to 101 after sales at 100, the market closing with probable buyers.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have found buyers at 29, and sales are reported at 29½, closing with sellers at the latter and buyers at the former rate. Into Chinas remain totally neglected. Douglasses remain in demand at 33 but without business. A small lot of Shells have changed hands at 45s. and more shares are wanted at that, or possibly at a little higher rate. Star Ferrys continue with buyers of the new issue at 15.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars are on offer at 112½ with the probability of a slightly lower rate being accepted. Luxons unchanged and without business.

MINING.—Rubis have changed hands in fair quantity at 7, 7½ and 7½, closing with further buyers at 7½. Chinese Engineerings have fallen in Shanghai to 15.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue quiet with a reported small sale at 92. Kowloon Wharves have been placed at 45½ and close with sellers at that rate. Shanghai Docks have fallen in the North to 77½, and Hongkew Wharves to 149, there are, however, small local buyers of the latter, at 150.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands remain quiet at 93 with sellers and no business to report. West Points are still on



offer at 46, while Kowloon Lands and Humphreys' are enquired for at quotations. Hotels rule steady at 80.

**COTTON MILLS.**—We have no changes nor business to report under this heading.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**—China Borneos have been in demand during the week and the rate has improved, after sales at 10 to 10½ buyers, with no sellers at the rate China Provident's continue in demand at 9½, but are still without any business to report. Green Islands have been placed to a limited extent at 10, but sellers rule the market at time of closing. Union Water Boats have been done at 10, and more shares are wanted. Langka's have boomed in Shanghai to 870. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

Quotations are as follows:—

| COMPANY.                          | PAID UP.            | QUOTATIONS             |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Alhambra                          | Ps. 200             | Nominal                |
| <b>Banks—</b>                     |                     |                        |
| Hongkong & S'hai...               | \$125               | \$825, buyers          |
| National B. of China              | 26                  | \$51, buyers           |
| Bell's Asbestos E. A.             | 12s. 6d.            | \$8                    |
| China-Borneo Co.                  | \$12                | \$10½, buyers          |
| China Light & P. Co.              | { \$10 }<br>{ \$1 } | \$5½, sellers          |
| China Provident                   | \$10                | \$9½, buyers           |
| <b>Cotton Mills—</b>              |                     |                        |
| Ewo.                              | Tls. 50             | Tls. 68                |
| Hongkong                          | \$10                | \$10½, sellers         |
| International                     | Tls. 75             | Tls. 61                |
| Laon Kung Mow                     | Tls. 100            | Tls. 75                |
| Soychee                           | Tls. 500            | Tls. 240               |
| <b>Dairy Farm</b>                 | \$3                 | \$22½                  |
| <b>Docks &amp; Wharves—</b>       |                     |                        |
| H. & K. Wharf & G.                | \$50                | \$46, sellers          |
| H. & W. Dock                      | \$50                | \$92, sales & sellers  |
| New Amoy Dock                     | \$81                | \$9½                   |
| Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.  | Tls. 100            | Tls. 77½, in S'hai     |
| S'hai & H. Wharf                  | Tls. 100            | Tls. 150, b., in S'hai |
| Fenwick & Co., Geo.               | \$25                | \$12, sellers          |
| G. Island Cement                  | \$10                | \$10, sales & sellers  |
| Hongkong & C. Gas                 | \$10                | \$190, buyers          |
| Hongkong Electric                 | \$10                | \$18, buyers           |
| Hongkong Hotel Co.                | \$50                | \$33                   |
| Hongkong Ice Co.                  | \$25                | \$230, sellers         |
| H. K. Milling Co., Ltd.           | \$100               | Nominal                |
| Hongkong Rope Co.                 | \$10                | \$24                   |
| <b>Insurances—</b>                |                     |                        |
| Canton                            | \$50                | \$180, buyers          |
| China Fire                        | \$20                | \$101, buyers          |
| China Traders                     | \$25                | \$87½                  |
| Hongkong Fire                     | \$50                | \$330, sellers         |
| North China                       | \$25                | Tls. 87½, buyers       |
| Union                             | \$100               | \$785, sales & buy.    |
| Yangtze                           | \$30                | \$160, buyers          |
| <b>Land and Buildings—</b>        |                     |                        |
| H'kong Land Invest.               | \$100               | \$93, sellers          |
| Humphreys' Estate                 | \$10                | \$9½, buyers           |
| Kowloon Land & B.                 | \$30                | \$30, buyers           |
| Shanghai Land                     | Tls. 50             | Tls. 116½              |
| West Point Building               | \$50                | \$46, sellers          |
| <b>Mining—</b>                    |                     |                        |
| Charbonnages                      | Tls. 250            | \$580, buyers          |
| Raub                              | 18/10               | \$7½, buyers           |
| Peak Tramways                     | \$10                | \$14                   |
| Philippine Co.                    | \$1                 | \$2                    |
|                                   | \$10                | \$8, sellers           |
| <b>Refineries—</b>                |                     |                        |
| China Sugar                       | \$100               | \$112½, sellers        |
| Luzon Sugar                       | \$100               | \$20, sellers          |
| Robinson Piano Co.                | \$50                | \$59                   |
| <b>Steamship Companies—</b>       |                     |                        |
| China and Manila                  | \$25                | \$14, sellers          |
| Douglas Steamship                 | \$50                | \$33, buyers           |
| H., Canton & M.                   | \$15                | \$29½, sellers         |
|                                   | \$15                | \$37½, sellers         |
| Indo-China S. N. Co.              | \$25                | \$17½, sellers         |
| Shell Transport Co.               | \$1                 | 45/- sales & buy.      |
| Star Ferry                        | \$10                | \$24½                  |
| Do. New                           | \$5                 | \$15, buyers           |
| South China M. Post.              | \$25                | \$24, buyers           |
| Steam Laundry Co.                 | \$5                 | \$5, sellers           |
| <b>Stores &amp; Dispensaries.</b> |                     |                        |
| Campbell, M & Co.                 | \$10                | \$9, sellers           |
| Powell & Co., Wm.                 | \$7                 | \$4, sellers           |
| Watkins                           | \$10                | \$2½, sellers          |
| Watson & Co., A. S.               | \$10                | \$9½, buyers           |
| Wismann Ltd.                      | \$100               | \$150                  |
| United Asbestos                   | \$1                 | \$12½                  |
| Do. Founders                      | \$10                | \$230                  |
| Union Waterboat Co.               | \$10                | \$10, sales & buy.     |

## SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

12th November, 1908.

| COMPANY.                                                                              | PAID UP.        | QUOTATION.                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Banks—</b>                                                                         |                 |                                                                            |
| Hongkong & S'hai...                                                                   | \$125           | \$830, buyers                                                              |
| National of China...                                                                  | 26              | \$51, buyers                                                               |
| Russo-Chinese                                                                         | R187½<br>T125   | Tls. 175, sellers                                                          |
| <b>Insurance—</b>                                                                     |                 |                                                                            |
| Union Society C'ton                                                                   | \$100           | \$790, sellers                                                             |
| North-China                                                                           | \$25            | Tls. 87½, buyers                                                           |
| Yangtze Assocn.                                                                       | \$60            | \$167 50, sellers                                                          |
| Canton                                                                                | \$50            | \$225, sellers                                                             |
| Hongkong Fire                                                                         | \$50            | \$312½, buyers                                                             |
| China Fire                                                                            | \$20            | \$98, buyers                                                               |
| <b>Shipping—</b>                                                                      |                 |                                                                            |
| Indo-China { pref.<br>def. }                                                          | £10             | Tls. 26, buyers<br>Tls. 11½, buyers                                        |
| Shell Trans. { ord.<br>& Trading { pref.<br>S'hai Tug & { ord.<br>Lighter ... { pref. | £1<br>10<br>T50 | \$22.50, sellers<br>£29.10, sellers<br>Tls. 4½, buyers<br>Tls. 52, sellers |
| Taku Tug & Lighter                                                                    | T50             | Tls. 48, sellers                                                           |
| Kochien Transport-<br>ation & Tow Boat                                                | T50             | Tls. 50, sellers                                                           |
| <b>Docks &amp; Wharves—</b>                                                           |                 |                                                                            |
| S'hai Dock & Eng.                                                                     | T100            | Tls. 81, sellers                                                           |
| H. & W. Dock                                                                          | \$50            | \$105, sellers                                                             |
| S. & H'kew Wharf                                                                      | T100            | Tls. 154, sellers                                                          |
| H. K'loon W. & G.                                                                     | \$50            | \$49, sellers                                                              |
| Yangtze                                                                               | T100            | Tls. 217½, sellers                                                         |
| <b>Sugar Companies—</b>                                                               |                 |                                                                            |
| Perak Cultivation                                                                     | T50             | Tls. 87½, buyers                                                           |
| China Refining                                                                        | \$100           | \$132½, sellers                                                            |
| <b>Mining—</b>                                                                        |                 |                                                                            |
| Raub Australian                                                                       | £1              | \$8, sellers                                                               |
| Chinese Eng. & Min.                                                                   | 18/10<br>£1     | Tls. 15½, x. d. bys.                                                       |
| <b>Lands—</b>                                                                         |                 |                                                                            |
| S'hai Investment                                                                      | T50             | Tls. 117, sales                                                            |
| H'kong Investment                                                                     | \$100           | \$99, sellers                                                              |
| Humphreys' Estate                                                                     | \$10            | \$10½, sellers                                                             |
| Wei-hai-wei                                                                           | T25             | \$9, sellers                                                               |
| China                                                                                 | T50             | Tls. 50, sellers                                                           |
| Anglo-French                                                                          | T100            | Tls. 100, sellers                                                          |
| <b>Cotton—</b>                                                                        |                 |                                                                            |
| Ewo.                                                                                  | T50             | Tls. 68, sellers                                                           |
| International                                                                         | T75             | Tls. 61, sellers                                                           |
| Laon Kung Mow                                                                         | T100            | Tls. 75, sellers                                                           |
| Soy Chee                                                                              | T500            | Tls. 240, sellers                                                          |
| H'kong C. S. W. D.                                                                    | \$10            | \$9, buyers                                                                |
| <b>Industrial—</b>                                                                    |                 |                                                                            |
| Shanghai Gas                                                                          | T50             | Tls. 117, sellers                                                          |
| Major Brothers                                                                        | T50             | Tls. 50, sellers                                                           |
| Shanghai Ice                                                                          | T25             | Tls. 14, sellers                                                           |
| China Flour Mill                                                                      | T50             | Tls. 40, sellers                                                           |
| S'hai Pulp & Paper                                                                    | T100            | Tls. 50, buyers                                                            |
| Green Is. Cement                                                                      | \$10            | \$10, sellers                                                              |
| Maatschappij, &c.,<br>in Langkat                                                      | Gs. 100         | Tls. 750, buyers                                                           |
| Shanghai-Sumatra<br>Tobacco                                                           | T20             | Tls. 125, buyers                                                           |
| S'hai Waterworks                                                                      | £20             | T. 405, buyers                                                             |
| Anglo-Ger. Brewery                                                                    | 100             | \$85, buyers                                                               |
| A. Butler Cement,<br>Tile Works                                                       | 50              | \$25, sellers                                                              |
| Kalumpang Rubber                                                                      | 50              | Tls. 57, x. d. sellers                                                     |
| Eastern Fibre                                                                         | 10              | nominal                                                                    |
| Shanghai Electric<br>Construction                                                     | £10             | 28 sellers                                                                 |
| <b>Miscellaneous—</b>                                                                 |                 |                                                                            |
| Hall & Holtz                                                                          | \$20            | \$20, buyers                                                               |
| A. Llewellyn                                                                          | \$60            | \$58, buyers                                                               |
| A. S. Watson & Co.                                                                    | \$10            | \$11½, sellers                                                             |
| Central Ordinary                                                                      | \$15            | \$12, sellers                                                              |
| Central Founders                                                                      | \$15            | \$400, buyers                                                              |
| S. Moutrie & Co.                                                                      | \$50            | \$47, sellers                                                              |
| Weeks & Co.                                                                           | \$20            | \$24, sellers                                                              |
| Astor House Hotel                                                                     | \$25            | \$16, sellers                                                              |
| Hongkong Hotel                                                                        | \$50            | \$98, sellers                                                              |
| Hotel des Colonies                                                                    | T12.50          | Tls. 6½, sellers                                                           |
| Tsingtao Hotel Co.                                                                    | \$100           | nominal                                                                    |
| Lane, Crawford & Co.                                                                  | 100             | \$152½, buyers                                                             |
| Dunning & Co.                                                                         | 50              | \$47½, sellers                                                             |
| S'hai Horse Bazar                                                                     | T50             | Tls. 42½, sellers                                                          |
| S'hai Mercury                                                                         | T50             | Tls. 50, sellers                                                           |
| S'hai Mutual Tele.                                                                    | T50             | Tls. 57, sellers                                                           |
| China Im. & Ex.<br>Lumber                                                             | T100            | Tls. 83, sellers                                                           |
| Shanghai Electric &<br>Asbestos                                                       | \$25            | \$23, sellers                                                              |
| Dallas Horse Rep-<br>pository                                                         | T50             | Tls. 25, sellers                                                           |
| Printing Co.                                                                          | T50             | Tls. 50, sellers                                                           |

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. of Shanghai in their Share Report for the week ending November 12th, 1908, state:—The feature of the week under review has been the sensational rise in the price of Maatschappij etc., in Langkat shares, which have appreciated since our last issue no less than Tls. 50 per share. We have to admit we have not been able so far to ascertain any genuine reason for this rapid advance. There has not been much attention paid to other stocks. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks are wanted at \$832½. The T.T. rate on London to-day is 2/8½. Marine and Fire Insurance.—There is no business reported. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. Co., Ltd. We hear of a transaction at Tls. 38 for cash. In other stocks under this heading there is no change. Docks and Wharves.—Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd. Shares are on offer at Tls. 81 for December. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company have ruled somewhat easier. Cash shares are on the market at Tls. 154. For December sales have been made at Tls. 157 and there are further sellers. Sugar Cos.—Perak Sugar Co. There is a transaction reported at Tls. 87½. Mining.—No business. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd. Shares have changed hands at Tls. 116 and Tls. 117. Industrial.—Ewo Cottons. There is no business reported; there are sellers for cash at Tls. 68, and for December at Tls. 68½. International Cottons have changed hands at Tls. 63 for December. Laon Kung Mow have been dealt in at Tls. 77 for December and there are sellers at this figure. Shanghai Gas Co. Shares are on offer at Tls. 116½. Maatschappij etc., in Langkat. A very considerable business has been done during the week at rates which since our last issue have shown a steady appreciation. The market opened with the cash rate at Tls. 695, and Tls. 705 for December. Every day since has marked a rise, and it has been difficult to keep an exact track of the market. At closing we would quote the rates to-day as Tls. 745 for cash, Tls. 755 for December and for March shares have changed hands at Tls. 790. Shanghai Waterworks Co. There is a demand for shares at Tls. 405. Miscellaneous.—Rates for the various stocks under this heading will be found below. Loan and Debentures.—Shanghai Land Six per cent. debentures have been dealt in at Tls. 103. Astor House Seven per cent. have been placed at Tls. 100½.

## EXCHANGE.

HONGKONG, November 23rd.

|                                    |              |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| LONDON.—Telegraphic Transfer       | 118½         |
| Bank Bills, on demand              | 118½         |
| Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight      | 118½         |
| Bank Bills at 4 months' sight      | 118½         |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight        | 118½         |
| Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight | 119          |
| ON PARIS.—                         |              |
| Bank Bills, on demand              | 215½         |
| Credits 4 months' sight            | 220          |
| ON GERMANY.—                       |              |
| On demand                          | 175½         |
| ON NEW YORK.—                      |              |
| Bank Bills, on demand              | 41½          |
| Credits, 60 days' sight            | 43           |
| ON BOMBAY.—                        |              |
| Telegraphic Transfer               | 129½         |
| Bank, on demand                    | 130          |
| ON CALCUTTA.—                      |              |
| Telegraphic Transfer               | 129½         |
| Bank on demand                     | 130          |
| ON SHANGHAI.—                      |              |
| Bank, at sight                     | 75½          |
| Private, 30 days' sight            | 76½          |
| ON YOKOHAMA.—                      |              |
| On demand                          | 83½          |
| ON MANILA.—                        |              |
| On demand                          | 84½          |
| ON SINGAPORE.—                     |              |
| On demand                          | 73½          |
| ON BATAVIA.—                       |              |
| On demand                          | 103          |
| ON HAI PHONG.—                     |              |
| On demand                          | 12½ p.c. pm. |
| ON SAIGON.—On demand               | 12 p.c. pm.  |
| ON BANGOK.—On demand               | 89           |
| SWEDISH, Bank's Buying Rate        | \$11.50      |
| GOLD LEAF 100 fine, per tael       | \$60.30      |
| SILVER per oz                      | 23½          |

## SUBSIDIARY COINS.

|          |                 | per cent. discount. |
|----------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Chinese  | 20 cents pieces | \$3.85              |
| "        | 10 " "          | 5.05                |
| Hongkong | 20 " "          | 3.40                |
| "        | 10 " "          | 3.50                |



## FREIGHT.

Hankow, 11th Nov.—Per Conference Steamers, To London and Northern Continental ports 45/- per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre 45/- per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) General Cargo 30/- per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez), Tea 37/6 per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (Overland) per carload, Tea G. \$1 1/2 cents per lb gross; less than carload Tea G. \$1 1/4 cents per lb gross; plus river freight. To Shanghai:—Tea and General Cargo, Tls. 1.80 at 1.80 per ton, weight or measurement.

## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

November:—

## ARRIVALS.

13, Borneo, German str., from Sandakan.  
13, Chenan, British str., from Shanghai.  
13, Delhi, British str., from Shanghai.  
13, Doyu Maru, Jap. str., from Takau.  
13, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
13, Locksun, German str., from Bangkok.  
13, Manila, German str., from Melbourne.  
13, Singan, British str., from Hoihow.  
13, Tean, British str., from Manila.  
13, Tsintau, German str., from Bangkok.  
13, Tuscarora, Br. str., from San Francisco.  
14, Haimun, British str., from Coast Ports.  
14, Hupeh, British str., from Swatow.  
14, Inverclyde, British str., from Keelung.  
14, Iyo Maru, Japanese str., from Seattle.  
14, Kiangping, Chinese str., from Chinkiang.  
14, Kueichow, British str., from Tientsin.  
14, Paklat, German str., from Bangkok.  
15, Aldenham, British str., from Australia.  
15, Benlomond, British str., from London.  
15, Calchas, British str., from Singapore.  
15, Canton, Swedish str., from Moji.  
15, Choshu Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.  
15, Ichang, British str., from Wuhu.  
15, Kaifong, British str., from Iloilo.  
15, Myrtlelene, British str., from Hongay.  
15, Persens, British str., from Shanghai.  
15, Pompey, Am. str., from Tong Ho Island.  
15, Swanley, British str., from Chingwantsao.  
15, Triumph, German str., from Hoihow.  
16, E. F. Ferdinand, Aus. str., from Trieste.  
16, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.  
16, Lennox, British str., from Shanghai.  
16, Shibetoro Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.  
17, Cheongshing, Br. str., from Weihaiwei.  
17, Eri, Norwegian str., from Manila.  
17, Fritjof, Norwegian str., from Kwangyen.  
17, Haitan, British str., from Swatow.  
17, Hanoi, French str., from K. C. Wan.  
17, Hongbee, British str., from Singapore.  
17, Klest, German str., from Yokohama.  
17, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
17, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.  
17, Namsang, British str., from Singapore.  
17, Oriel, British str., from Moji.  
17, Scandia, German str., from Hamburg.  
17, Senegambia, German str., from Shanghai.  
17, Suisang, British str., from Weihaiwei.  
17, Tungshing, British str., from Wuhu.  
17, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.  
18, Ching Wo, British str., from Singapore.  
18, Chowfa, German str., from Bangkok.  
18, Fooching, British str., from Newchwang.  
18, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.  
18, Kweiyang, British str., from Newchwang.  
18, Machaon, British str., from Yokohama.  
18, Matoppo, British str., from Manila.  
18, Mainam, French str., from Antwerp.  
18, Shaohsing, British str., from Amoy.  
18, Tjikini, Dutch str., from Moji.  
19, Empress of China, Br. str., from Vancouver.  
19, Goeben, German str., from Hamburg.  
19, Haimun, British str., from Coast Ports.  
19, Signal, German str., from Haiphong.  
November:— DEPARTURES.  
13, Chiyan, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
13, Choyang, British str., for Swatow.  
13, Tingsang, British str., for Shanghai.  
13, Wakamiya M., Jap. str., for Singapore.  
13, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.  
14, A. Apos, British str., for Singapore.  
14, Capri, Italian str., for Singapore.  
14, Chipshing, British str., for Weihaiwei.  
14, Delhi, British str., for Europe.  
14, Derwent, British str., for Saigon.  
14, Fukura Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.  
14, Korea, American str., for Shanghai.  
14, Matilda Korner, Ger. str., for Hongay.

14, Rubi, British str., for Manila.  
14, Sado Maru Japanese str., for Kobe.  
14, Zweena, British str., for Cheribon.  
15, Amigo, German str., for Haiphong.  
15, Bujna Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.  
15, Doyu Maru, Japanese str., for Anping.  
15, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.  
15, Inverclyde, British str., for New York.  
15, Marie, German str., for Newchwang.  
16, Calchas, British str., for Shanghai.  
16, Hupeh, British str., for Hoihow.  
17, Aldenham, British str., for Moji.  
17, Benlomond, British str., for Nagasaki.  
17, Devawongae, German str., for Bangkok.  
17, Feiching, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
17, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.  
17, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.  
17, Joshin Maru, British str., for Swatow.  
17, Perseus, British str., for Singapore.  
17, Rajaburi, German str., for Bangkok.  
17, Tean, British str., for Manila.  
17, Wosang, British str., for Shanghai.  
18, Kleist, German str., for Europe.  
19, C. Apcar, British str., for Singapore.  
19, Chenan, British str., for Shanghai.  
19, Choshu Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.  
19, E. F. Ferdinand, Aus. str., for Yokohama.  
19, Hanoi, French str., for K. C. Wan.  
19, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
19, Mainam, French str., for Shanghai.  
19, Paklat, German str., for Bangkok.  
19, Scandia, German str., for Hamburg.  
19, Senegambia, German str., for Hamburg.  
19, Tjikini, Dutch str., for Saigon.  
19, Tjimahi, Dutch str., for Amoy.  
19, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.

## PASSENGERS.

## ARRIVED.

Per Kwangtah, from Shanghai, Mr and Mrs Holliday.  
Per Erzherzog Franz Ferdinand, from Trieste ports, Miss Cohan.  
Per Singan, from Hoihow, Messrs Cherry, Frison and J. des Faux.  
Per Shaohsing, from Shanghai and Amoy, Mr and Mrs Ellis, and Mr Jackson.  
Per Haitan, from Swatow, Master Gallons, (3) Mrs. Currie and Mrs. J. Payne.  
Per Benlomond, from London, Mr and Mrs Buckingham, and Mr F. W. Rudt.  
Per Namsang, from Singapore, Mr and Mrs Share, Messrs Bennet, Hamilton and Silvester.  
Per Tean, from Manila, Mr and Mrs Otterman, Dr Moberlig, Messrs Law, Wisbann, Gale, Muller, Dempsie, Digon and Miralles.  
Per Haiching, from Coast Ports, Mr and Mrs Chapman, Miss Wybrants, H.E. Wdn, H.E. Look, Messrs Phillips, Kapteyn, O'Brien, Guapango and Cne.  
Per Aldenham, from Australia, Miss Bushell, Miss E. Baker, Capt. Beyer, Messrs Marcal, Da Rego and children, Carolo Jesus, Carion Das Santos and Antonio.  
Per Zafiro, from Manila, Mrs O. Ambrosian, Misses Phyllis MacDonald, L. Volkman and J. Volkman, Rev. M. S. Morgan, Messrs L. Renner, H. Bayne, M. C. Morgan, F. H. Cooke, D. Lirona, J. M. Teaster, W. D. Graham, Dan Volkman and John Volkman.  
Per Delhi, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Messrs E. T. Tuloh and J. Dixon; from Kobe, Mr W. A. Dowley; from Shanghai, Mr and Mrs W. J. Gresson, maid and servant, Mr and Mrs A. J. Welch, infant and amah, Mr and Mrs Isakson, R. v. and Mrs Atkinson, Lieut. M. Portman, Capt. F. K. fcd. Messrs A. R. Lowe, A. R. Hager, Moll, Gande, E. H. Spittle, G. Laya, A. E. Fearney and L. C. Atkinson; from Shanghai, for Singapore, Messrs E. H. Willis, A. O'Halloran and A. G. Israel; for Bombay, from Yokohama, Misses Rider, Haggard and Kirby, and Mr E. J. Misro; from Shanghai, Messrs P. Sorabshaw and A. C. Abdool; for Bundisi, from Shanghai, Mr W. H. Marks and party servant; for Marseilles, from Kobe, Mr C. P. Brooks; from Shanghai, Lieut. Col. McKay and Mr B. S. Sale; from Shanghai, for London, Mr and Mrs J. Mark 2 children and infant, Mr and Mrs Barlow, wheeler and infant, Dr. Miss and Mrs Welton, and child, Mrs Kelly and 2 infants, Miss Knight, Lieut. Col. M. E. Hearn, Messrs F. W. Keid, D. E. Mok, child and amah, C. H. Godfrey, W. Coulbaid and H. Yockill; from Yokohama, for London, Mrs and Miss Auning and Mrs J. R. Rotson.

Per Empress of China, for Hongkong, from Vancouver, Capt. L. D. Olwigro, Sir Francis Lovill, Messrs H. Allyn, A. Higgins, F. G. Obey, A. H. Todd, P. A. D. Alexander, R. Tooveg, W. H. Dixon and T. H. B. Rorie; from Yokohama, Mr, Mrs and Miss Hearn; Mr and Mrs N. H. Falk, and Mr A. M. Knapp; from Kobe, Mrs Grenfell and maid; from Nagasaki, Mr and Mr R. Rand, Dr. and Mrs M. Kirkbride, Messrs R. S. Cranmer and D. W. Craddock; from Shanghai, Mr and Mrs Sigalas, Lieut. Charles Jeirram, R.M.L.I., Messrs C. C. Gilbert and Ellis Kadoorie.

Per Kleist, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mrs B. K. Hutchison, Mrs J. E. Lewis, Mrs H. S. Eaton and maid, Mrs Gehin and child, Mrs O. P. Jackson and child, Mrs J. B. Dennis, Messrs M. Duckhoff, Qualtrough, A. Koenigh and S. Hastim; from Kobe, Mr and Mrs W. M. Milne, Mrs W. Bedford, Mrs Sutherland and daughters, Miss H. M. Farrell, Messrs J. S. MacCobb and Ed. Musselmann; from Nagasaki, Mr and Mrs E. B. Thomson, Hon. M. Stonon, Lord Camoys, Mrs M. Kamaski, Messrs F. Odada, F. Shirts, Kaimenz, Ch. Tatteng and Ch. Faisang; from Shanghai, Mr and Mrs A. Montor, Mr and Mrs Streit, Mr and Mrs Goldenberg, Mrs Daria, Mrs Horton, Mrs Boutrain, Mrs Cington, Misses E. Lillex, M. Stickney, M. Wirkham, H. Morton, Kerschlioy, Booth and N. Altschulle, Dr. MacBrown, Dr. H. Klee, Messrs A. v. Bohnzweig, H. A. Roehn, K. Lange, H. Hygdal, E. Marques, Smokglass, M. A. Pereira, S. Barbour, L. Ferguson, S. Case, R. S. Robert, P. Tayold, J. Belin, G. W. Gegg and G. A. Jackson and family.

## DEPARTED.

Per Rubi, for Manila, Mr and Mrs L. F. Kilburn and child, Mr and Mrs Verard, Mrs and Miss Bilyer, Col. and Mrs S. C. Mills and 2 daughters, Mrs V. Russell, Miss K. Sama, Messrs J. Plyth, C. F. Bristol, Ph. Eugster, H. G. White, A. Biralinger, W. R. A. White, H. Masters, G. H. Corse & A. V. Casendish.

Per Kbre, for San Francisco, Mr and Mrs L. B. Graves, Mr and Mrs J. W. Leeper, Rev. and Mrs W. S. Davis and child, Rev. and Mrs E. E. Sullivan and child, Mrs F. G. Bland, Mrs E. C. Weatherwax, Misses D. G. Graves, F. G. Bland, F. Bland, S. Bland, L. A. Benjamin, N. Evans and N. Huggins, Lieut. Grant Duff, Sir Paul Chater, Dr. H. Scott, Messrs E. A. Fowler, Wm. Craik, H. R. Spencer, D. C. Smith and W. B. Walker.

Per Kleist, for Bremen, &c., Mr and Mrs Entwistle, Mr and Mrs Fuchs and child, Mr and Mrs J. R. Hanify, Mr and Mrs C. Y. Rice, Mr and Mrs Siebenschein, Mr and Mrs L. Stedtmann, Mr and Mrs J. V. Skiff, Mr and Mrs K. Sampul, Mr and Mrs C. E. Waterman, Mr and Mrs Weber, Capt. and Mrs Sloss, Mrs L. Babinghoff, Mrs Dungan, Mrs Dransfield, Mrs L. Henz, Mrs S. P. Hegan, Mrs Hauptm. Heinz, Mrs Haun & child, Mrs F. C. Macauley, Baronin von Mangelsdorff, Mrs Okaru Omura, Mrs Percebois and daughter, Mrs Pinkey, Mrs J. T. Thomas and children, Mrs C. I. Wade, Misses Anderson, Eacott, A. Henriksen, Else Meyer, Ada Paul, E. Rademacher, Antoinette Salmini, E. de Vella and M. Villwock, Dr. Franke, Dr. Hans Klee, Dr. Ranke, Dr. Phil. Schreiner, Rev. Dr. Ch. Atkinson and family, Rev. M. C. Morgan, Rev. M. S. Morgan, Admiral W. H. Emery, Flag Lieut. Rob. W. Henderson, Schwester Sidonie Knaepel, Sergeant Westerbeek, Messrs J. F. Brandon, Director Dreyer, Heinrich Daemker, O. v. Easn, S. Earl, H. Engster, K. Fischer, J. Faust and family, J. M. Feaster, E. Fasan, Herbert Garvens, Gauhe, F. W. Godding, Goldman, M. J. Hopkins and family, R. Fr. von Hockberg, W. Hofeld, W. G. Hamilton, Eugen Hanke, Hunter, M. J. Holst, M. Kruger, M. Kuntzsch, S. Kamsteg and family, King and son, Ingenieur Lux, Lange, F. P. Murphy, E. Nissim, Ross, Sass, W. Smith, Sharitaki, E. Schlumbohm, Karl Schneider, P. A. van der Stadt and family, K. Schlundt, Tyack, James Tweedies, John H. Volkman, Geo. F. Volkman and family, von Wettum and family, Masch Wenzel, W. G. Young and F. Zabel.

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